FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT CONTACTS IRANIAN REVOLUTION COMMAND

JN160610 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 16 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander of the Palestinian revolution forces, telephoned the Iranian revolution command in Tehran last night. Abu 'Ammar was assured of the situation in Iran, particularly in Tabriz.

The Iranian revolution command assured brother Abu 'Ammar that the people's revolutionaries had quelled the riots that were carried out by SAVAK elements in Tabriz. The Iranian command briefed Abu 'Ammar on measures taken by the Islamic revolution court against some of the proshah army commanders. Brother Abu 'Ammar expressed his satisfaction with the general Iranian situation.

OPEC REPORTEDLY TO HOLD EMERGENCY MEETING 26 MAR

LD151500 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Kuwait--AS-SIYASAH said here today that OPEC will hold an emergency ministerial meeting on 26 March to study the possibility of raising oil prices.

Another Kuwaiti paper, AL-HADAF, was confirmed press reports about OPEC being called to hold an extraordinary conference to discuss the question of raising the prices,but did not fix a date for the meeting. It said that the proposed meeting will discuss in particular the raising of the prices of the additional quantities of oil which the international oil companies will ask the exporting states to produce to meet the deficit which the international market is experiencing as a result of the stoppage of Iranian oil production.

BAGHDAD VOP REPORTS ON PLO-JORDAN TALKS IN AMMAN

JN151915 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Maj 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya, assistant director of the PLO Political Department, who is currently visiting Jordan, has stated that the talks he held with Jordanian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim were extremely positive. The talks dealt in particular with the preparations for the visit which Faruq Qaddumi will soon make to Amman.

Al-Yahya, who arrived in Amman yesterday, Wednesday, has met with several officials of the Jordanian regime. He is expected to leave Amman for Damascus tomorrow, Friday.

FATAH SPOKESMAN SCORES REJECTIONIST LEADERS FOR ATTITUDES

LD141641 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 12 Feb 79 p 6 LD

[Report on press conference held by Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah movement Executive Committee member, in Kuwait--date not given]

[Excerpts] Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah movement Executive Committee member, has said that the Palestine National Council [PNC] meetings were successful and positive but that the council failed to set up a new executive committee. Al-Hasan accused [DPFLP leader] Nayif al-Hawatimah of adopting a dissident attitude at the PNC meetings.

Al-Hasan made this statement at a press conference he held at his residence in which he spoke about the Fatah organization, its continued struggle against the enemy and the PNC meetings. Several questions were asked during the conference. Al-Hasan began by saying:

The PNC succeeded unanimously adopting the political, military and financial resolutions as well as the national unity political and organizational program in its general principles but it failed to reach agreement on the formation of a new executive committee reflecting the organizational unity program and qualified to draw up detailed regulations for the implementation of the general principles of the proposed organizational unity program.

[Question] Does this result weaken the committee's representational strength and the legality of its existence?

[Answer] What has happened has nothing to do with the strength or weakness of the committee's representation or the legality of the existing committee because the PNC statutes stipulate that the duration of the committee's term of office is the same as that of the PNC as long as the committee enjoys the PNC's confidence.

The present committee did not resign nor did the council withdraw confidence from it and it therefore continues in office in accordance with the PNC statutes. Therefore, had there been an agreement on a new front formula, the election of a new committee would have first required the resignation of the present committee.

[Question] What were the reasons that prevented the formation of a new committee?

[Answer] There were several reasons, some of which were objective while others were due to ulterior and selfish motives. The objective reasons concerned the inaccuracy of the provision regarding the meaning of participation on a front basis as contained in the organizational program which was approved. This provision stipulates participation on a front basis by all Palestinian resistance factions and forces at the PNC level, Central Council level and Executive Committee level. Literally, this provision means involving every Palestinian national grouping regardless of its position or history of struggle. If, for argument's sake, we accept this meaning it would be possible to apply it to the PNC and the PLO Central Council. But the application of this stipulation to the Executive Committee would render the committee impractical as a day-to-day command of the Palestinian struggle because it would mean the participation of 8 organizations, 10 unions and no less than 8 parties as well as other various Palestinian groupings. In other words, the Executive Committee would consist of no less than 30 members while the Soviet Politburo consists of only11 members [as published]. A command consisting of such a large number of people cannot function or agree on anything. The term "all" in the provision needs to be defined. Moreover, the day-to-day command of any revolution cannot fail to include the representatives of the really effective forces in the struggle as the absence of such representatives would weaken the effectiveness of decisions, the struggle and the people's cohesion around the command.

Despite these difficulties, it would have been possible to reach understanding had there been good will and mutual trust. But narrow-mindedness and ulterior motives almost turned the matter into a crisis and would have had it not been for the wisdom of some people, the legal outlet provided by the articles of the statutes and the desire by Fatah not to enforce democratic procedures by putting the question of electing an executive committee to a direct vote by the PNC. The majority that Fatah enjoys at the council enables it to elect the list of candidates that Fatah and its supporters on the council want. But Fatah preferred to reach an agreement so that all the organizations would become involved in the committee in order to achieve the unity of the means of struggle. But suspicions and mistrust and all the ensuing counterbids and random accusations blocked the idea of creating a possible objective opposition at this stage of our struggle. It would have been possible for Fatah to claim representation of popular organizations on the Executive Committee but this would mean that the great majority on the committee would be for Fatah because the great majority of the popular organizations come under Fatah. But Fatah believes that this is contrary to the spirit of cooperation on a front basis.

According to the logic of things and since the political unity program and organizational unity program have been approved, the rejection front should have dissolved itself. But when this request was made to the rejection front leaders, Dr George Habash agreed that the request was logical but declined to comply immediately because, as he put it, "there are detailed matters that need to be discussed thoroughly before reaching a decision on dissolution."

Therefore, if we link all this with the united stand against Fatah adopted by some other organizations on the question of forming an executive committee and the refusal of these organizations to increase the number of Fatah representatives on the committee, then Fatah will have the right to reconsider the concession it made in 1973 when it reduced the number of its representatives on the Executive Committee from four to two. At the recent meeting, Fatah demanded a reversion to the previous level of representation but then temporarily accepted three representatives. But this was rejected. When the other organizations accepted the appointment of three representatives (the two existing ones plus an additional one) they demanded that two specific independent representatives be excluded. But Fatah rejected this condition.

Here I must regretfully point up the provocative, dissident and hostile attitude to Fatah adopted by Nayif Hawatimah. Such an attitude raises a question mark and poses a great danger to internal relations in the Palestinian field. Such an attitude can be described as the dissident Hawatimite policy that raises a thousand questions regarding the dissident attitude of Hawatimah's followers within the Palestinian arena and their incitement of hostility among the PLO rank and file through opportunist vacillation from supporting Fatah's political line at one time and the rejection front's political line at another and advocating the idea of armed struggle yet at another time. Furthermore, it resorts to misleading the public in the newspaper AL-HURRIYAH, in which it has a half share, causing confusion and disruption among Palestinian public opinion. This is in addition to raising ideological issues that have nothing to do with the current stage of the Palestinian struggle.

Hawatimah has gone so far as to threaten withdrawal from the Executive Committee on behalf of another organization. He would have been able to indulge further in such threats had it not been for the wisdom of Zuhayr Muhsin who, together with Ahmad Jibril and the Arab Liberation Front [ALF] representative, declared their rejection of the idea of withdrawal both in principle and as a means of blackmail. This has left Hawatimah alone in his stand.

Everybody is called upon to consider this phenomenon of Hawatimite dissidence, instigation and provocation in the Palestinian arena so that it can be contained and curbed in order to prevent its harmful effects. This is in view of the fact that such a phenomenon is destructive to intrinsic Palestinian power and is of incalculable value to the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialism.

Here I must record with appreciateion the wisdom shown by Dr George Habash who, in view of his familiarity with this situation and his long-standing knowledge of Hawatimite dissident behavior, prevented Hawatimah from causing dramatic dissension at the recent PNC meetings.

Nevertheless, it is the duty of Fatah, being the mother organization, to behave wisely, with cool nerves and without retribution in its quest to achieve the unity of the means of revolution.

VOICE OF PALESTINE CRITICIZES DAYAN'S STATEMENTS

NC151218 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 14 Feb 79 NC

[Unattributed Commentary]

[Excerpt] Today we will discuss Dayan's sensational statements concerning the PLO, the uproar they have caused within the Zionist entity, the ensuing explanations given by Begin and other Zionists, and finally the explanations given by Dayan in the newspaper YEDI'OT AHARONOT today. These statements contain only one new element. These statements have been made by someone who once said that the Palestinian terrorists are like an egg in his hand and he can crush this egg whenever he wants. He now says that the PLO is a key factor in the Middle East.

We, the Palestinians, clearly understand the underlying significance of Dayan's statement and motives. We also understand the circumstances that prompted this statement and the Zionist aim behind it. We say that Dayan's statement is an imperfect ambush whose aim is to drag the Palestinians into a futile argument about the lie of Israel's recognition of them and consequently the other small lies that will follow.

Dayan's new comedy called "the possibility of Israel's recognition of the Palestinians" serves to insinuate to the Arabs that they should put pressure on the Palestinians. However, while we view the statement as an ambush designed to pull us on a course which cannot benefit us, we at the same time present it to the world as proof that the Palestinian truth is increasingly and powerfully imposing itself on its enemies. It is imposing itself as it is--a bright, strong and deeply rooted truth that can neither be compromised nor diminished. Dayan's statement will not tempt us and will not let us float on a foot of water. Rather we will remain on the correct course we have pursued since the first day of the revolution, and we will pursue this course until victory.

With this course we have attained the recognition of most states of the world and with it we will attain our full national objective.

Brothers, Dayan's statement does not mean at all that there has been a change in Israel's constant position toward the Palestinian revolution, that of absolute hostility. This position has been affirmed by Menahem Begin and Moshe Dayan. Since this is Israel's position, what prompted Dayan to make his statement? The answer is as follows: Due to the escalation of Palestinian activity inside the occupied territories and the increased political influence of the Palestinian revolution on Arab and international levels, followed by the victory of the sister revolution in Iran, an excellent Palestinian position has arisen morally, materially as well as politically. This has prompted the Zionists to try to undermine this position and prevent it from yielding fruit in full. They have laid this ambush in the hope that the Palestinians will be trapped in it.

The Palestinians through the various stages of their bitter and continuous struggle have convinced the world that they are smarter than their Zionist enemy. They are not satisfied just to avoid this ambush or similar ambushes, but they are working intelligently to trap their enemy in it. Therefore, we say that Dayan's statement has no political effect.

KUWAIT

PAPER STRESSES LOYALTY IN FACE OF IRANIAN MOVEMENT

LD151125 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 13 Feb 79 p 1 LD

['Abd al-'Aziz al-Musa'id article: "Loyalty to the Country Is Indivisible"]

[Text] In the past 2 days, processions have marched through the streets in some parts of the country. The participants shouted slogans expressing admiration for the success of the friendly Iranian people's revolution under Aya-tollah Khomeyni's leadership.

It is fair to say that this man has been able to achieve for the Iranian people their ambitions and aspirations. Thus he has become a distinguished phenomenon and has been able to win admiration and appreciation both at home and abroad.

The man has set an example: He has shown the determination, strong will, patience and perseverance that a revolutionary leader should have in order to reach his objectives and achieve the ambitions of the masses in his country.

We are making these observations having followed the unfolding of the great victory that the Iranian people have achieved. What has happened there and the manner in which it has happened is breathtaking and calls for admiration.

However, we should make further observations that concern our very national existence and the roots of this existence, which stem from love and total loyalty to the country just as any other people love and are loyal to their country and national affiliation.

The first observation concerns the manner with which some of the demonstrating citizens expressed their admiration for the "neighbors' revolution." It is a manner which is not entirely free of defiance to national feelings and which, wittingly or unwittingly, hurts such feelings.

The second observation is that government instructions and regulations ban the staging of demonstrations without prior permission from the authorities concerned. What some of the brothers have done is a violation of these orders, and it was up to those concerned to respect and comply with those orders.

The third observation, which is certainly most important of all, concerns the emergence of the phenomenon of dual loyalty. It is a known fact that loyalty is one and indivisible. We in this country are one family whose loyalty and obedience is for this country and its own family. However many of us may be overwhelmed by admiration for the achievement of our neighbors or anybody else, such admiration should in no way and absolutely by no means reflect on our national feelings or hurt them.

We love our country and are loyal to it. It is illogical that we should divide this love and loyalty no matter how strong the admiration felt by some of us and regardless of its justification.

OMAN

QABUS REVEALS CONCERN OVER 'UNEXPECTED SITUATION' IN IRAN

LD151539 Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 10 Feb 79 p 14 LD

[Jens Nauntofte February interview with Qabus ibn Sa'id, sultan of Oman, in Muscat: "Nervousness in Arab Peninsula After Iranian Power Shift"]

[Text] Three weeks after the shah of Iran gave up the peacock throne in Tehran and went into exile with his queen and the crown jewels, Sultan Qabus of Oman, one of his closest friends in the Persian Gulf, said: "I sincerely hope that no new Colonel al-Qadhdhafi comes to the fore anywhere in the Arab Peninsula."

The sultan of Oman has every possible reason to be concerned, since the long procession of oil tankers plying their way through Oman's territorial waters is almost visible with the naked eye from the windows of the sultan's palace here. A ship passes every 3 minutes. In all they transport 40 percent of the world's oil supplies.

The shah's fall naturally raises the question of who will now replace him. The change of guard in the world's most important oil center has created nervousness in the Arab oil states. Could the same happen to them?

It Could Be Dangerous for Us Not To Stand Together

A warm February sun, reflected in the glittering gulf, shone through the palace windows when Sultan Qabus, clad in white robes, wearing a turban and a large silver dagger in his belt, received me for an audience in Muscat.

"Naturally we are extremely concerned at the unexpected situation which has arisen," he said in perfect English with a trace of a Sandhurst accent. "Iran is an important factor, and there was a gentleman's agreement between myself and the shah. Iranian troops were here in Oman a few years ago to increase our strike power and to combat disturbances in Dhofar.

"But now we have to make our own way. And it is important for us here in the Arab Peninsula to put our heads together. It could be dangerous for us not to stand together."

The Sultanate of Oman--a region the size of England but with only 1 million inhabitants--extends along the gulf the entire length of the southwest coast of the Arabian Peninsula. "If anything drastic happens to threaten the world's oil supplies there could well be a great risk here in my territorial waters," Sultan Qabus said. "I think it is high time that the Western world, which is dependent on our oil supplies, become aware that it is also their security which is being defended here around our coasts."

Afraid of the Crushing Bear Hug

Sultan Qabus is by no means the kind of person who sees ghosts in broad daylight. But both he and the other rulers in the Arabian Gulf are afraid of Soviet expansion into their region. The shah's fall has created a vacuum in the region's security policy, and they assume that the Soviet Union will take advantage of it. In talking to political leaders in the gulf, one literally senses the Russian bear's crushing embrace which extends from Ethiopia and South Yemen in the west to Afghanistan in the east. The Kremlin is on its way to the warm waters.

"Of course, they are not kicking down the door and occupying our country," Qabus said with a wry smile. "But even if other people are naive we have no reason to be. The Soviet Union is pressing ahead with a new and dangerous imperialism. It is others who should think seriously about the new situation. Oman has no military pact with the United States, but I recognize that the United States is the major military power today, and I hope that the Soviet Union is given no opportunity to alter the distribution of power in the gulf."

Qabus rules over one of the most well-exercised armies in the Arabian Gulf. And, of course, it has acquired combat experience in countering guerrilla disturbances in the western province of Dhofar. The sultan is spending one-third of his 1979 budget on defense. "We must be strong enough to defend our country, whatever happens."

Iraq Feels Threatened

But it is not primarily Oman which is threatened by the power shift in Iran. As Sultan Qabus noted, the situation is much more serious for Iraq, Iran's neighbor. The Shi'ite Muslims under the Ayatollah Khomeyni's leadership, who have been really responsible for the shah's flight from the country, have many fellow believers in Iraq. In the past few weeks the Baghdad government has been busily engaged in forming a union between Iraq and Syria. "Iraq's leaders are nervous," Sultan Qabus said. "The disturbances in Iran could be contagious. Remember that some of the Shi'ite holy places, such as Karbala', are situated in Iraq. For this reason, the Iraqi Government has gone to great pains with its plans for union with Syria, in order to distract the people's attention and strengthen its domestic position with a military pact with Syria."

The Nightmare of an Al-Qadhdhafi in Saudi Arabia

Sultan Qabus is keeping a careful eye on developments throughout the Arabian Peninsula. But he acknowledged that Suadi Arabia is crucial to the entire region. "If I were asked what would happen if Saudi Arabia were controlled by an officer like Al-Qadhdhafi I would answer that we would be in a tight spot. We would all be in trouble. Saudi Arabia is a vast country with only 8-9 million inhabitants. For this reason, the royal family has had to bring in an outside work force. Large numbers of Yemenis, Palestinians, Egyptians, and Pakistanis have been imported. I would say that there is as much foreign labor in Saudi Arabia today as there is native labor. That is the cost of hasty expansion.

Far be it from Sultan Qabus to criticize his friends in the Saudi Government. And particularly now there is a need for a united front and a common policy after the change of regime in Iran. Instead, the Oman regime stresses the national unity within the country. "In the end we have only ourselves to rely on," he said. The idea of a new Al-Qadhdhafi or An-Nasir is probably highly uncomfortable for him and is something best forgotten as quickly as possible.

Sultan Qabus pulled his robes around him and, with perfect courtesy, showed his guest to the door. Outside, the Persian Gulf gleamed in the winter sun while the oil tankers complacently continued their passage to and from the world's energy center. Two-thirds of Europe's oil supplies depend on these ships being able to carry out their mission unchallenged.

LEBANESE PAPER REPORTS BRITISH MILITARY PRESENCE

NC160930 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 15 Feb 79 p 12 NC

[Mustafa Karkut dispatch]

[Text] London--AS-SAFIR has learned from a British political source that last month Britain reinforced its military presence in Oman by sending dozens of fighter planes and pilots. It has also learned that this was done as a precaution against any eventuality in Iran.

It is a known fact that the air force in Oman is supervised by British officers and that all pilots in the army of Sultan Qabus are British.

The source added that the recent measures were not restricted to the dispatch of aircraft and pilots. A number of military experts have also been sent.

They added that the British decision was not unilateral; the matter had been discussed between British and American officials on the one hand and between them and the NATO chief of staff on the other.

The source expressed the belief that the reinforcement of the Omani military had a dual aim to protect the regime of Sultan Qabus against any danger from the PDRY, and against the consequences of the Iranian events.

The source mentioned the so-called "message for help" sent to the U.S. via Britain by Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Qais Zawawi, saying that it had been treated as an "immediate matter" by the British Government.

Meanwhile, it was said, large-scale and urgent discussions are underway with Turkey at the NATO level to persuade that government to set up U.S. observation and monitoring bases replacing those which had been closed down in Iran.

SAUDI ARABIA

FOREIGN MINISTER SA'UD AL-FAYSAL RETURNS FROM AMMAN

LD151156 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal returned to Riyadh early this morning from Amman at the end of his brief visit to Jordan during which he handed King Husayn of Jordan a message from King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

MINISTER OF FINANCE RETURNS FROM GULF MEETING

LD160318 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1712 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy, this evening returned to Riyadh from Muscat after attending the meetings of the General Assembly of the International Bank of the Gulf.

QNA QUOTES SAUDI PAPER ON ARMS SALES IN AREA

NC151240 Doha QNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 15 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Riyadh, 15 February--The Saudi newspaper AR-RIYAD expresses the belief that arms trading is all that concerns the big powers in the Middle East events.

In an editorial today, the paper points out that the crises that have taken place in the Middle East during the third quarter of the 20th century have consumed billions of dollars worth of modern arms, and that only a handful of states have shared in these large sums. The paper said that the beneficiary states are now resuming their trading, but with more developed arms that are more expensive in both material and political terms. The paper notes the current events in Iran and says: The big powers, led by the United States and Russia, are now reviewing the situation in the area on the basis of the Iranian events. It appears that a secret agreement has been reached to freeze the situation until the experts of all parties concerned have concluded their study of future arms trading in the area.

Concluding its article, AR-RIYAD stresses that all that concerns the United States and Russia is to preserve the old arms clients and to win new ones. This can only be achieved by maintaining the operations of attrition for which Moscow and Washington paved the way in a process of creating political crises, developing them into clashes and finally civil wars.

UAE

UAE REPORTEDLY INCREASES LIGHT CRUDE OIL PRICES

JN151251 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1225 GMT 15 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 February--The UAE announced an increase today in the prices of certain kinds of exported light crude oil of $1.10 per barrel from the Murban and Zakum oilfields and of 90 cents per barrel from the Umm ash-Sha'if oilfield. The announcement said that this increase is an additional allowance due to the oil's high quality and not an increase in the prices endorsed by OPEC at its latest conference in Abu Dhabi. As the statement said, the increase is part of the large increases prevailing in the world oil markets.

YEMEN--PDRY

ISMA'IL RECEIVES ALGERIAN ENVOY WITH MESSAGE FROM BENDJEDID

LD151752 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD/EA

[Summary] 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council, today received Bousalem Bessaih, member of the Central Committee of the Algerian National Liberation Front and personal envoy from President Chadli Bendjedid.

At the meeting, Bousalem Bessaih conveyed President Bendjedid's greetings to 'Abd al-Fattah. "He pledged the Algerian people's support for our progressive regime's struggle to accomplish the aims and aspirations of the people of Democratic Yemen. The two officials reviewed the latest developments in the Arab region and the Arabian Gulf following the victory of the revolution of the people of Iran over the shah's despotic rule and the efforts of sisterly Algeria and Democratic Yemen to strengthen the cohesion of the progressive Arab forces and to reinforce Arab solidarity in the face of the Zionist occupation and imperialist designs. Stress was laid on the need to strengthen the fraternal bilateral relations between the brotherly countries through exchange visits and coordination on matters of common interest and through the utilization of the experiences of the two revolutions in the fields of social development and party construction."

ADEN VOICE OF OMAN COMMENTS ON BROWN'S TOUR

LD151228 Aden Voice of Oman in Arabic 1545 GMT 14 Feb 79 LD/EA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers, the change of the Iranian situation in favor of the people's masses has tilted the balance of power in the region, making American imperialism send its defense minister to explore conditions in the Middle East, particularly in the Arabian Gulf region. Observers have pointed out that Brown, on the basis of this tour which includes Saudi Arabia, Jordan and occupied Palestine, intends to draw up a new American strategy for the gulf and Middle East regions. Informed sources say that the purpose of Brown's trip is to gather data for this new strategy now that it has become impossible to rely on Iran. The Zionist energy minister last weekend said that Brown would be concerned with the prospect of transferring American military assistance from Iran to other states in the region to insure full production for the American arms industry, threatened with closure because of the downfall of the shah's regime and the cancellation of the military contracts it has concluded with the U.S. Goverrment during the past 5 years worth $12 billion.

The English REUTER agency reports that some Zionist officials have intimated that the United States may try to link the Saudi Kingdom, Egypt and Israel in a defense framework as a substitute for Iran. Moreover, the American defense minister, who arrived in occupied Palestine yesterday, stressed that the United States and Israel have a joint interest in what he called the stability of the Middle East. He also reaffirmed America's commitment to the security of Israel. At the same time, within the new strategy of American imperialism in the region following the changes in Iran, America's eyes have turned to Oman, considering it to be the weak link among the reactionary states of the region and in view of its important strategic position in the designs of imperialism. It has recently been declared that some of the American intelligence organs which were in Iran have been transferred to Oman and others to Israel.

AL-WATAN AL-ARABI magazine, published in Paris, also reported that the agent Qabus asked for urgent military assistance from Washington when conditions in Iran (?came to a head) and the end of the shah's regime, which helped protect the Qabus regime, drew near. In confirmation of this, former American President Ford visited Muscat recently. Press reports in Kuwait also said that agent Qais Zawawi [Omani foreign minister] will pay a visit to Washington soon, a visit that falls within the framework of new American tendencies in the region. It is noteworthy that observers have seen unusual activity over the past weeks by the American ambassador to Muscat; no day passes without his meeting an official in the Qabus shadow government. In the context of the American defense minister's tour to Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Israel, so far political observers affirm that it comes within the framework of America's drawing up new plans. These are an attempt to spread America's influence and expand its role in the region after its forces lost the biggest state included in its designs as a tool for implementing and safeguarding its interests and agents.

In addition to this, the American minister explains that the region faces tension, and so American imperialism will strive more and more to (?strengthen its influence) so as to serve its interests and maintain its hegemony in the region. From this same aim also stems the introduction of sophisticated weapons to the region.

GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE, CONSOLIDATE RELATIONS WITH IRAN

NC151613 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1541 GMT 15 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 15 February--An Egyptian official source has stated that Egypt intends to continue to consolidate its already strong relations with the fraternal Iranian people and whatever government they choose.

The source expressed Egypt's wishes for the success of such a government in achieving the highest degree of prosperity for Iran. The source also emphasized Egypt's firm stand of not interfering in the internal affairs of other states and of respecting their will and their right to choose without any foreign interference.

The text of the statement made by the official source follows:

Egypt has always been eager to base its relations with Iran on the basic principle of its foreign policy--the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of states and of respecting the will of the peoples and their right to choose without foreign interference. The relationship between the fraternal Egyptian and Iranian peoples has been characterized by solidarity, fraternity and faith in their joint interests in view of the spiritual, cultural and historic ties that bind the two countries.

The Egyptian Government intends to continue to follow this policy, which expresses the Egyptian people's unanimous desire to consolidate their strong relations with the Iranian people and whatever government they choose, wishing this noble people every success in achieving the highest degree of prosperity and in preserving Iran as a noble, strong country that is free from foreign interference and ambition.

GHALI LEAVES GENEVA AFTER MEETING UN, ILO OFFICIALS

NC151609 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 15 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Geneva, 15 February--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and the delegation accompanying him left Geneva this afternoon for Cairo following a European tour which began in Brussels last Sunday.

Before leaving Geneva, Dr Ghali met with Mr (Bilan), chairman of the 35th session of the UN Human Rights Committee, and briefed him on Egyptian views regarding repeated violations of the human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories. Dr Ghali pointed out that the UN Human Rights Committee can play a useful role in creating a suitable atmosphere before and after agreement is reached between Egypt and Israel because, in his opinion, the encroachment on the rights of Palestinians in the occupied territories would naturally increase the obstacles in the way of measures which may be taken after the signing of an Egyptian-Israeli agreement--measures related to Palestinian participation in determining the future of the West Bank and Gaza.

The Human Rights Committee chairman promised to coordinate fully with the minister of state for foreign affairs in pursuing the efforts to protect the human rights of the Palestinians in the West Bank.

Dr Ghali also met with ILO Director General Blanchard and expressed to him the Egyptian Government's interest in the condition of the Palestinian Arab workers under Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza. He explained the Egyptian view that the ill-treatment of the Arab workers in the occupied Arab territories creates an atmosphere unfavorable for the steps which will follow the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli agreement. Dr Ghali told Blanchard that Egypt wishes and hopes that the United States will again play its role and assume its ILO membership after having withdrawn from it in protest against certain resolutions condemning Israel.

Returns to Cairo

NC152106 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2035 GMT 15 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 15 February--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali returned to Cairo this evening after a 5-day visit to Belgium and Switzerland.

Dr Ghali said on his return that the purpose of his visit was to explain to the Belgian and European public the latest developments in the Middle East crisis. He then referred to his meeting with Belgian King Baudouin, to whom he gave a letter from President Anwar as-Sadat, and his talks with Belgian Foreign Minister Henri Simonet.

He said that the discussions during his meeting in Geneva with UN Human Rights Committee chairman Mr (Bilan) dealt with the human rights violations in the West Bank and Gaza sector.

Dr Ghali pointed out that in Geneva he also met with ILO Director General Blanchard, to whom he explained the conditions of the Arab workers in the occupied territories and the need to study their conditions, especially because the workers' public rights are not respected at all in these areas.

CAIRO RADIO COMMENTS ON DAYAN STATEMENT ON PLO

NC151406 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Feb 79 NC

['Abd al-'Azim Hammad commentary: "Dayan's New Maneuver"]

[Text] Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan reaffirmed yesterday that Israel cannot ignore the weight of the PLO but that he was not in any way proposing negotiations with it. This new affirmation came 24 hours after the uproar raised by his earlier statement about Israel's attitude toward the PLO. Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin has said that Dayan's statement does not represent the government's view. This means that Dayan's assertion that the PLO cannot be ignored was neither a casual statement nor an indication of a change in Dayan's personal views on the Palestinian question. It only indicates a new distribution of roles between Dayan and his prime minister, Begin, a few days before the resumption of the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations.

It is known that the main obstacle in the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations is the Israeli Government's rejection of linkage between settlement of the Egyptian aspect of the conflict and settlement of the Palestinian aspect. Israel's aim is to prevent Egypt from playing its role in promoting a Palestinian settlement in accordance with the Camp David accords. This would enable Israel to deal separately with the Palestinians to bring about a settlement in harmony with the Zionist ambitions in the West Bank and Gaza or to block the chances of a settlement based on participation of the Palestinian people in determining their own fate.

Naturally, we agree that Israel should not ignore the PLO. Israel, however, has not yet acknowledged the logical consequences of its admission that it is impossible to overlook the PLO. This is because Israel, in the person of its foreign minister, is announcing that the PLO cannot be ignored; at the same time, however, and through the same minister, it is declaring that it will not negotiate with the PLO. Israel is therefore combining two completely contradictory positions. The only explanation of such a contradiction is that Dayan and his prime minister have only one aim behind saying that the PLO cannot be overlooked but that they will never negotiate with it. This aim is to fling the Palestinian question back into the unsettled state which prevailed before the Camp David agreements committed Israel to specific and clear undertakings for the settlement of this problem.

As Dayan's statements come only days before the date set for the resumption of the Egyptian-Israeli peace negotiations, he hopes or deludes himself into thinking that such statements would rob the Egyptian delegation of the justification for insisting on a link between the withdrawal from Sinai and arrangements for Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza sector. He wants to appear to address himself to the people concerned but at the same time he is sure that a dialog will not happen because this, in his opinion, would first require PLO recognition of Israel. Nevertheless, if Dayan really means what he says, then why does Israel not follow the course charted by the Camp David agreements for the participation of the Palestinian people's representatives in determining their own fate, since the overall peace process falls within the framework of these agreements?

FOREIGN MINISTER OPENS MEETING OF IRAQI AMBASSADORS

JN151703 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi this morning inaugurated the conference of Iraqi chiefs of diplomatic missions accredited to the European and socialist states, the North American states, Japan, China and Australia. The conference will last 6 days.

The conference was attended by Mr Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs, the under secretaries of the Foreign Ministry and department heads. A general discussion was held on the most important international issues related to the states to which they are accredited and the relations between these issues and Iraqi and Arab foreign policy.

The conference is the first of a series of conferences organized by the Foreign Ministry for the chiefs of Iraqi diplomatic missions abroad with the aim of informing them of Iraqi stands in the political, information, economic and oil fields and to acquaint them with the development plans being implemented in the country and the achievements of the 17 July revolution.

The conference also aims at achieving complete coordination between the ministry and the Iraqi diplomatic missions abroad and reviewing current international issues. The agenda of the conference includes arranging for meetings with a number of officials in the party and Revolution Command and a number of ministers.

The second conference for the chiefs of Iraqi diplomatic missions in the Arab states will be held on 15 March. The third conference, which will be devoted to the chiefs of diplomatic missions in the Third World states of Asia, Africa and Latin America, will be held on 15 April.

BULGARIAN TRANSPORTATION MINISTER ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN161134 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 16 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 16 February--Vasil Tsanov, Bulgarian minister of transportation, arrived in Baghdad at noon today at the head of a delegation on a week long visit to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Tsanov said that he will hold talks with Iraqi officials on issues of mutual concern, particularly those pertaining to transport, building and construction. He asserted his country's eagerness to strengthen relations of friendship and cooperation with Iraq.

CAMILLE SHAM'UN, PIERRE AL-JUMAYYIL MAKE STATEMENTS

NC161330 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 16 Feb 79 NC

[Excerpts] Former President Camille Sham'un and Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil today held a lengthy meeting that was attended by the commanders of the Lebanese forces. During the meeting all urgent political and security topics were discussed. The meeting was important in view of the delicate topics that were discussed.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, who left the meeting early, made a statement after he left in which he said: Discipline is a very important thing and becomes more important in time of battles. It was necessary for us to meet today following the recent incidents and the shelling to which the peaceful citizens were subjected in a number of areas. We affirm that discipline is important in both peace and war. We still affirm the need for adhering to the UN Security Council cease-fire resolution despite the repeated attacks.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil added: The meeting was very useful because we discussed several topics dealing with the current situation, particularly in the areas which are being constantly shelled.

Former President Camille Sham'un said:

[Begin recording] We discussed the current situation. We affirm our respect for the Security Council cease-fire resolution. Consequently, we ask the Security Council to send UN observers or to authorize some of the UNIFIL commanders to assume the capacity of UN observers so that they may pinpoint the party which is violating the cease-fire.

In the recent incidents I can affirm that the Lebanese forces were extremely careful not to fire a single shot. The deterrent forces issued communiques devoid of any truth in which they accused the Lebanese forces of starting the shooting. The presence of UN observers will put an end to (?such tendentious) allegations. [end recording]

Commander of the Lebanese forces Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil said that today's meeting is the most important meeting the Lebanese forces have held since the Tall az-Za'tar battle. He added: We will act more effectively and will organize ourselves better to face the situation and we believe that we are proceeding along the correct course.

SNIPER FIRE PREVENTS OFFICIALS FROM LEAVING OFFICES

NC151235 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman continued his contacts from his office in Government House with the responsible parties and commands to bring about an end to the sniper fire.

In a telephone contact with the interior minister made by a correspondent of the Midday Radio Journal, the minister said that he hopes positive results will be achieved.

However, the sniper fire has continued intermittently. This situation has prevented senior officials at the prime minister's office and the Interior Ministry and the journalists at Government House from leaving their offices and has prevented the people who have business to do from getting there.

Despite the return of internal security forces patrols to Fu'ad Shihab Bridge, movement on this bridge remains light. Caution continues to prevail on the other axes from the commercial area to At-Tahwitah and the southern suburb. Movement on the Museum-Sodeco Road is normal.

VOL REPORTS SECURITY SITUATION 15 FEB

NC160815 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 16 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Security patrols were resumed at 0730 today in the sector of the Fu'ad Shihab Bridge. Traffic looks normal, but it is still light.

Relative calm reigned this morning on all contact lines in the capital and suburbs. Sporadic firing continued throughout last night within the capital and on the combat lines of (Al-Kufuri), Badaru, (Sinnin) and the flour mills in the southern suburb.

Security Situation 16 Feb

NC160836 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 16 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Relative calm has been reigning on the contact lines in the capital and the suburbs since the morning. Security patrols returned this morning to the sector of the Fu'ad Shihab Bridge. However, sporadic firing is still being heard.

LEBANESE ARMY FORCES REPLACE WITHDRAWN SUDANESE

NC161302 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 16 Feb 79 NC

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon correspondent reports that units of the Lebanese Army have replaced the Sudanese forces with the Arab Deterrent Forces following the withdrawal of the Sudanese forces.

As one of the measures adopted after this withdrawal, Lebanese forces have taken positions in front of the Arab Deterrent Forces command, Al-Hilu Barracks and Beirut International Airport.

VOL: SYRIA TO PRESSURE PALESTINIANS, LEFTISTS

NC160750 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 16 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Some hope is looming on the political horizon that steps will be taken toward partial solutions. Such solutions might somehow contribute to making a start toward surmounting the present difficulties. This is based on the fact that well-informed sources are saying that Syria is determined to pressure the Palestinians and leftists. Syria will take this action in response to the Lebanese Government's desire to chart strategic routes for the entry of Lebanese Army units into the southern area to implement the UN Security Council resolution.

In preparation for this action, and as some sources believe, the command of the mainly Syrian Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] will hand over to the Lebanese Army a number of existing positions in the sector between the museum and (An-Nasirah) and from An-Nahr Street in the east up to Fu'ad I Street in the south. Meanwhile, consultations are underway concerning the streets leading to B'abda Palace.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD RECEIVES PLO LEADER 'ARAFAT

JN151308 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 15 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--At noon today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, and Fatah Central Committee members Salah Khalaf, Muhammad Ghunaym, Khalil al-Wazir and Nimr Salim.

The discussion dealt with the situation in the Arab region, especially regarding the Palestine question. The discussion also concerned the situation in southern Lebanon and the efforts being exerted to foil the conspiracies against southern Lebanon and, through it, against the Arab nation. Viewpoints were identical on the need to double the efforts to foil these conspiracies.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM RECEIVES LEBANESE DELEGATION

JN151341 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 15 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--At noon today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received a Lebanese Nationalist Movement delegation composed of Tawfiq Sultan and Dr Albert Mansur. The discussion during this meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Lebanese arena.

BA'TH OFFICIAL RECEIVES SOVIET PARTY DELEGATION

JN151510 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1310 GMT 15 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 15 February--Comrade Fayiz an-Nuri, alternate member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command and chief of the Regional Educational Bureau, met today with the Soviet Communist Party delegation which is visiting the country to learn about education and learning in Syria. The meeting took place in the regional command building and dealt with the history of the educational and learning establishments in the country since the beginning of the Ottoman occupation.

Comrade an-Nuri pointed to the care given to education since the 8 March revolution, especially after the corrective movement under President Hafiz al-Asad.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the difficulties faced by the Ba'th Party concerning the development of education in Syria, the role of the party and the state in overcoming these difficulties and ways to raise the level of education and learning in order to suit the modern world and serve the aims of the Arab nation.

The delegation also paid a visit to 'Id 'Abdu, assistant education minister, who briefed the delegation on the plan and aims of education in Syria and the fields which the state is developing during the 5-year plan. The meeting reviewed the tasks of the Education Ministry in all educational fields and ways to make the targets of the ministry meet with the principle of equal opportunity for all Syrian citizens in a way commensurate with connecting education with the growth of the economy and the environment.

LIBYA

GDR DELEGATION LED BY HONECKER ARRIVES 15 FEB

LD151152 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1106 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli--The GDR Party and state delegation, led by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, arrived today in Tripoli for an official friendship visit to the Socialist Libyan People's Arab Jamahiriyah.

Honecker Arrival Statement

LD151614 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Statement by Erich Honecker, chairman of the GDR State Council, on arrival at Tripoli Airport on 15 February--recorded, in German followed by Arabic translation]

[Text] I am very happy to have this cordial meeting in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, to be met by my friend and brother Al-Qadhdhafi. We are pleased at this opportunity. Fraternal relations exist between our two peoples and our two countries and we could further deepen these relations. I believe this is the most important result of our visit; because in the most important international issues we have common stands in the struggle for peace, against neocolonialism and racism, for disarmament and also on various levels in many other fields. Our visit will give us the opportunity to continue to exchange views, which we began 8 months ago to our mutual benefit and for the consolidation of peace. I would like to take the opportunity of our arrival here to greet the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, to convey to them the warmest greetings of the people of the GDR. Thank you.

Honecker, Al-Qadhdhafi Meeting

LD152100 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1641 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli (ADN correspondent)--Erich Honecker and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had a friendly meeting at the People's Palace in Tripoli this afternoon. Afterward the delegations headed by them began their official talks. At the meeting of the two statesmen it was noted with satisfaction that the friendly cooperation between the two states has continued its stable development and that the fighting alliance against imperialism, colonialism and racism has been consolidated. At the official talks of the two delegations, identical views on fundamental questions of international affairs were noted. The discussions dwelt on bilateral questions as well as on international problems, in particular the situation in Europe and the Middle East.

During their exchange of views which was conducted in a friendly atmosphere, both sides noted identical views on fundamental questions of international affairs. During the official talks they expressed their resolve to strengthen and consolidate the cooperation and solidarity among the states of the socialist community, the nonalined countries and the national liberation movements still further. The two sides affirmed the need to take a consistent stand to strengthen peace and security of the peoples, to end the arms race and bring about disarmament, to liquidate the hotbeds of tension and the remnants of colonialism, and to promote international cooperation on terms of equality.

Also present at the official talks on the GDR side were: Willi Stoph, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; the members of the Politburo and secretaries of the Central Committee, Hermann Axen and Guenter Mittag; GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer; and Freimut Seidel, GDR ambassador in Libya.

Present on the Libyan side were: Major Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress; Jadallah Azzuz al-Talhk, secretary of industry; Abu Bakr Ali ash-Sharif, secretary of trade; Musa Ahmad Abu Furaywah, secretary of planning; Isa al-Baba, deputy secretary of foreign affairs; Salim al-Madlini, deputy secretary of transport; and Muhammad al-Matmati, Libya's ambassador in the GDR.

Dinner Toasts

LD160406 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2110 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli--(ADN correspondent)--The members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Libya were presented in Tripoli on Thursday to Erich Honecker, the secretary general of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council. Erich Honecker, Willi Stoph, Hermann Axen, Guenter Mittag and Oskar Fischer engaged in friendly conversation with the doyen of the diplomatic corps, the ambassador of the Italian Republic and other diplomats from various European, African and Asian countries.

At the end of the first day of the visit, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi gave a dinner in honor of Erich Honecker which was attended by the members of the GDR Party and state delegation and leading Libyan public figures. In the course of the friendly gathering, the Libyan and GDR heads of state paid tribute to the development of relations between the two countries and affirmed their common ground in the anti-imperialist struggle for peace and freedom of the peoples, and for social progress.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi expressed his pleasure at Erich Honecker's visit and recalled his own visit to the GDR last year which likewise was evidence of the friendship between the peoples of the two countries. The GDR and Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, he said proposing a toast, are among the states standing for a just peace and fruitful cooperation between the peoples. Both states and peoples have fought jointly against colonialism, racism and Zionism.

The Libyan statesman paid tribute to the recent events in Iran as a victory of the Iranian people's revolution. He expressed his conviction that in Africa, too, the peoples would achieve victory over racism and reaction.

In conclusion Colonel al-Qadhdhafi described the relations between Libya and the GDR as an example of how the peoples could jointly fight in a single front against imperialism despite different social systems and ideologies. Erich Honecker's visit was a further important step for deepening the cooperation between the two countries.

In his toast Erich Honecker affirmed that the friendly relations between the GDR and Libya are developing with stability and energy. Both countries are continuing to develop them in the spirit of anti-imperialist solidarity on the basis of complete equality. The exchange of views in Tripoli has shown once again that the GDR and Libya are allies in the struggle for joint aims in the building of a new society, a better world free from imperialist expoitation and oppression.

Both are united in the desire to pursue the constant strengthening of the anti-imperialist alliance of the states of the socialist community and the progressive states of Africa and Asia which have achieved their national liberation.

Concerning the Middle East problem Erich Honecker said that genuine peace can be achieved only if the safeguarding of the inalienable national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including its right to establish a state of its own, Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, and the independent existence and security of all states in this region are organically interlinked. This calls for collective efforts of all directly interested parties within the framework of the international bodies provided for this purpose. The GDR welcomed the basic position of the summit conferences of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation in Tripoli, Algiers and Damascus. It supported the decisions of the Baghdad summit conference of the heads of state and government of Arab countries.

CONSTRUCTION COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH CUBA

LD152040 Tripoli JANA in English 1655 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Mr. Muhammad al-Manqush, housing secretary in the Jamahiriyah and Mr. Levi Farah, the Cuban minister president of the state committee for construction, signed a joint protocol stipulating cooperation in various fields of construction and the participation of Cuban establishments in erecting housing units and executing some projects for roads, transportation, dams and water resources in the Jamahiriyah. The two sides also agreed on establishing a Libyan-Cuban company for construction.

Attending the signing were the Libyan under-secretary of housing, the assistant-director of the National Bank of Cuba, the Cuban ambassador to the Jamahiriyah and a representative from the cooperation department at the Foreign Secretariat.

TUNISIA

PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA, PLO'S QADDUMI HOLD TALKS

LD151826 Tunis TAP in English 1538 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tunis, Feb 15 (TAP)--Premier Hedi Nouira conferred Wednesday afternoon with chief of the PLO political department Faruq Qaddumi who has been staying in Tunisia since Tuesday within the framework of periodical consultations between Tunisian and Palestinian officials.

The talks turned on a certain number of current issues, especially in the latest developments of the situation in the Middle East and the Arab region. At the end of the audience Faruq Qaddumi said that he had informed Hedi Nouira of the outcomes of the Palestinian National Council meeting, recently held in Damascus. This meeting allowed to pass through new stages in the way of unification of the Palestinian resistance. "We also talked about the developments of the situation in Iran and their repercussions on the Arab region, especially the positive influences of the Iranian revolution on the Palestinian cause" he said.

On the other hand, the chief of the PLO Political Department stressed the necessity to reinforce the Arab solidarity according to the resolutions of the Rabat and Baghdad Arab summits.

"I conveyed to Mr. Hedi Nouira the regards of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to President Bourguiba, and I also expressed to him the profound gratitude of the Palestinian revolution for the support it finds with President Bourguiba and the Tunisian Government and people in all fields", he concluded. Faruq Qaddumi left Tunis Thursday after a two-day visit.

Qaddumi Departure Comments

LD151438 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Faruq Qaddumi, head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organization, left Tunis this morning at the end of his 2-day visit. In a statement he said that during this visit he conferred with Hedi Nouira, prime minister, Mohamed Fitouri, foreign minister, and with Mohamed Sayah, minister-delegate to the prime minister and director of the party and with a number of other Tunisian officials. He exchanged views with them on issues under discussion, pointing out that views on these issues are identical.

Faruq Qaddumi said: We found every response from the official brothers and from the prime minister [words indistinct] the continuation of sister Tunisia, led by its president, Habib Bourguiba, standing by the Palestinian issue on all levels and in all fields so that the Palestinian people will achieve the establishment of their independent state and their right to self-determination and their return to their Palestinian homeland.

WESTERN SAHARA

DEFENSE MINISTRY CLAIMS VICTORY AGAINST ROYALIST FORCES

LD160750 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to a new communique by the Saharan Defense Ministry published today, the Saharan fighters have been continuing their attacks against the invading royalist forces in both southern parts of Morocco and the occupied Saharan territory within the framework of the Houari Boumediene offensive inflicting further heavy casualties on these forces.

The communique states that on 12 February, a royalist military unit was attacked 10 km away from the (?Al-Qulat) barracks on southern Morocco by Saharan fighters who besieged it from all sides. The clash lasted for 2 hours. The royalist forces tried to intervene to help the besieged forces but the Saharan fighters intercepted them most fiercely. Twelve royalist soldiers were killed and two armored vehicles and three trucks were destroyed.

The Saharan Defense Ministry communique adds that on 10 February, the Saharan fighters attacked the defenses of the royalist forces barracks at Semara in the Saharan territory. A number of installations were destroyed. Over 10 soldiers were killed and about 15 others were wounded.

BEGIN 'OPEN LETTER' ON PEACE WITH EGYPT, AUTONOMY

LD151211 Brussels LE SOIR in French 13 Feb 79 pp 1,4 LD

[Apparent text of "open letter" from Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin: "We Are Continuing To Fight for Peace"]

[Text] We are in the center of a region which is in the grip of great upheavals, which we are watching closely, keeping our eyes wide open. From time to time we have warned the free world that it is in danger. One after another countries find themselves subjected to totalitarianism, and the free world shrinks. At present it has become almost like an island under perpetual attack. For this reason all of us free men and women must face up to things together, to insure the survival of freedom. Otherwise the values in which we believe as Jews, as human beings, as citizens of free countries, the values which make our lives worth living, run the rish of being destroyed.

These upheavals prove, if proof were still needed, that even in this region, which is one of the most strategically important in the world, the free world has only one stable and faithful ally. Its name is the State of Israel, which enjoys the stability inherent in democracy.

However, we must realize that only a strong Israel can eventually achieve peace, and consequently it is vital to insure that Israel remains strong. We must see that its strength is maintained for years and generations to come.

At present we are engaged in an active search for peace in the Middle East between Israel and its neighbors, following 30 years of bloodshed and five major wars. The first step in this process was a bilateral peace treaty between Egypt and Israel on which we agreed at Camp David.

This peace treaty could have been signed in the 4 weeks preceding the deadline set at Camp David by President as-Sadat and I with President Carter as witness, in other words, 4 weeks before 17 December, the last days of the 3 months we gave each other to negotiate and conclude the peace treaty. On 11 November, in fact, the three delegations, Egyptian, Israeli and American, agreed on a draft peace treaty.

And on 21 November the Israeli Government took a major decision when it abandoned two amendments--important amendments--so that it would be possible to avoid reopening talks on the peace treaty and to sign it as it had been accepted by the three delegations.

Thus, we still had 4 weeks left before the 17 December deadline. But this period elapsed without the goal being achieved. And I would like to stress that this was not our fault, but that the blame lies with the other side. For we were surprised during those 4 weeks by new demands which not only did not figure in the Camp David agreement but did not tally with it.

For our part, we wish to remain loyal and faithful to the document we signed. We believe in the golden rule of international law that agreements must be respected and applied and that a signature is a commitment.

Our enemies sometimes hint, and even accuse us, of wanting Egypt to sign a separate peace with Israel. This is not true.

We have never suggested a separate peace treaty to Egypt, either in Jerusalem when we had our first meeting with President as-Sadat, or in Ismailia when we had a further meeting. Both these meetings took place in a friendly atmosphere imbued with mutual understanding and good will. We promised each other never again to make war, never again to provoke bloodshed, to negotiate despite knowing that there were differences of views between us, and to continue negotiating until they were overcome and we reach an agreement which could serve both as a basis for a peace treaty and as an example to the Middle East states. What we envisaged was that it would be the first step toward a general peace settlement in the Middle East, because this is what we want with all our hearts.

Would it be logical, would it be sensible for us to want to sign a separate peace treaty with only one of our neighbors, Egypt, and to let the state of war and the possibility of hostilities on the northeast front persist? In that area there is a group of hostile states which meet with others in Baghdad and proclaim their hostility toward Israel. And this group of Arab states possess 5,000 tanks--twice what Egypt has--thousands of pieces of heavy artillery, hundreds of fighter planes and bombers and all the modern sophisticated weapons. What advantage is there to us in perpetuating such a combination of hostile forces after signing a peace treaty? That would be totally unreasonable. This is why I categorically reject any accusation that we are seeking a separate peace with Egypt in order to provoke trouble in the Arab world.

What we really want with all our hearts is peace. We have suffered so much as a people. We have lost so many men as a nation. We want no more wars. We want no more victories on the battlefield. And this is why we have made so many sacrifices for the cause of peace. We chose to make them for the cause of peace because they were preferable to the losses caused by war. We have taken great risks to achieve peace.

Not only do I not deny that our attitude involves sacrifices and causes us to take risks, but I proclaim always and everywhere that "we have done so with the aim of ultimately giving peace to our people, who are fighting to win it, who desire it with all their might, who are praying to have it and also to be able to offer it to our neighbors."

This is why we stipulated in the draft peace treaty that a treaty between ourselves and Egypt would not be affected by either any acts or any lack of reaction on the part of any other state, because we want to see a real peace treaty and not a treaty limited in terms of time. It must remain in force for generations. We must think about the future of our children. However, since other Middle East countries still refuse to sit down at a conference table or even to discuss peace with us, we must insure that any bilateral peace treaty is not abrogated sooner or later because other countries oppose it. This is the meaning of this stipulation. Can anyone force Syria to sit down at a conference table and negotiate with us? Can we do it? Can Egypt exert any control over Damascus' actions? Can the powerful United States induce Syria or even Jordan, to which it supplies all its arms, to sit down at a conference table and negotiate with Israel? No one can do this. They met in Baghdad. They adopted decisions hostile to peace and hostile to Israel. They promised war and they have no desire at all to negotiate a peace treaty now. This is why we asked: "Would a bilateral peace treaty between ourselves and Egypt have to be or will it be made dependent on the good will of Damascus, Jordan, Iraq, Libya or any other country hostile to Israel?" If this were the case it would not be a peace treaty and it would not last. We do not believe, as certain cynics do, that in the final analysis a peace treaty is only a scrap of paper which can always be torn up. Any treaty and any agreement can certainly be broken, but we believe in the profound significance of the revolutionary change which is now taking place in the Middle East.

A peace treaty between ourselves and Egypt, that is, between ourselves and the largest and most powerful Arab state, would show that we can coexist. We would visit one another, we would have joint enterprises, we would prosper together and we would help one another. We could really help one another. President as-Sadat realizes this, I realize this and we have told each other this on several occasions. Therefore, we must insure that such a peace treaty would not be at the mercy of the mood of hostile forces. If this were the case, it would be a "non-peace" agreement and I state forcefully that we will not sign a "non-peace treaty" with Egypt.

There is also a second decisive stipulation: peace and war. Egypt has agreements with all the Arab League countries including those which I have already mentioned, some of which are Israel's most hostile and implacable enemies: Iraq, Syria and others.

Our generation still remembers certain pacts signed between various European countries. The terms were innocuous--defense pacts, security agreements. The same applies to the pacts in our region. We know what they contain and we know that they are all directed against Israel. That is why we stipulated in the 11 November draft peace treaty that if there was ever a conflict between those anti-Israeli agreements and the treaty which we were going to sign with Egypt, the clauses of the treaty would be binding and must be applied. That is logical and clear. What can happen to Egypt? Can anybody honestly believe that we would attack it? The question does not arise. It is absolutely unrealistic.

On the other hand, Egypt could be placed in the position of attacking Israel because of its agreements with other countries, unless it is expressly stated that the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt is the document which prevails. Egypt runs no risk, whereas we could be faced with a serious threat if we had to fight on all fronts including that of the country with which we had signed a peace treaty.

Therefore, we must make sure that the treaty will not be torn up and that we will not be in the position of facing a new war on the southern front while envisaging the threat of a possible attack in the northern and eastern sectors.

This is not just a question of legal terminology but of vital questions concerning our existence and our children's existence, and that is why we agreed on those two stipulations on 11 November. It is a great pity that we were later asked to interpret those two stipulations, which we regard as the essence of the peace treaty, in a way which would contradict the very spirit of the treaty and might even negate it. Consequently new problems arose in the negotiating process.

However, I would like to emphasize that we will never give up hope nor will we ever abandon our efforts to achieve a peace treaty. There may be ups and downs. That happens in all negotiations. It is natural in a way. Our own experience and that of other countries has taught us that. We must never despair and never give up hope but must continue our efforts with perseverance.

Mr. A.L. Atherton came to Israel recently and together we drew up certain formulas which he took to Egypt. The reply was negative. However we continued to say that we are prepared, ready and willing to negotiate the points on which we have not yet reached agreement. It is not a question of quantity. The draft treaty contains 9 articles and 30 paragraphs. There is complete agreement on eight of those articles. One is still in the balance. Some 27 of the 30 paragraphs have been accepted by both sides. Only 3 are still pending. But sometimes 1 or 3 paragraphs out of 30 can be the most important element. That is why we are persevering in our efforts.

We will not give up. We will vigorously pursue our goal, which is to conclude a peace treaty with Egypt. And then, let us hope, we will pursue our efforts to give autonomy to the Palestinian Arabs in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip and to provide security for our civilian population, always bearing in mind one essential principle: never to expose our civilian population to the guns of any enemy of our people and our country.

BEGIN REAFFIRMS ISRAEL'S VALUE TO STABLE, FREE WORLD

TA160418 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 15 Feb 79 TA

[Text] The prime minister reiterated that Israel is the sole ally the West can rely on in the Middle East. Begin said in a speech at the concluding session of the conference of Jewish war veterans that in one-leader regimes, one bullet is enough to change the government and later the international alinement. This was demonstrated by the events in Iran, the results of which can not yet be foreseen. In contrast, Israel's stability is rooted in its democratic regime, and therefore the free world has an interest in strengthening Israel.

JERUSALEM REPORTS BROWN MEETINGS, NOTES DISPUTES

TA142100 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Today, U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown again stressed the U.S. commitment to Israel. Brown met this evening with the prime minister in the latter's office in Jerusalem. Earlier he met with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman. Here is our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram on the U.S. secretary of defense's meetings today.

[Ram] Secretary of Defense Harold Brown had two lightning political meetings in Jerusalem today: one with the foreign minister and the other with the prime minister. The U.S. secretary of defense repeated his country's commitment to Israel's security. During the talks, the new strategic process was examined in light of what is happening in the Middle East. Today's events at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and the matter of the kidnaping and murder of the U.S. ambassador in Afghanistan were discussed.

After a 1 and 1/4-hour meeting with the prime minister, the visiting secretary reviewed what is going on in the area in light of the events of the last few days and the expected event--the Camp David conference. There was unanimity of opinion between the two personalities regarding expected developments and Israel's status as a stable and democratic factor in the area.

[Begin videotape--in English--Brown] We discussed the problems of the region, including security problems, political and economic problems and continued close cooperation between Israel and the United States.

[Begin] I do believe that the visit of the secretary of defense will be a great contribution to the deepening of the friendship between the United States and Israel.

[Unidentified correspondent] Are you optimistic at this point, pessimistic, Mr Brown and the prime minister?

[Brown] I try always to be realistic, and in that spirit, I believe that the talks beginning later this month will move the peace process further along. I consider that a very important element in the stability of this region. [end videotape]

[Announcer] And what is going on behind the scenes of these talks? Several serious points of dispute were revealed in the talks held yesterday and today between the U.S. secretary of defense and his staff and the top echelon of the security establishment in Israel. Views are divided on the matter of Israel's role in stabilizing the strategic situation in the Middle East and on the matter of the military aid the United States will give Israel over the next 5 years. Here is our military correspondent 'Amiram Nir on this:

[Nir] Well, from talks with U.S. elements, it appears that Harold Brown has come here convinced that the revolution in Iran is not a complete catastrophe for the Americans and that, with wise policy, Khomeyni's regime can be brought somewhat closer to the West. Brown thinks that U.S. interests now demand greater reliance on the Arab countries in the area. The only thing interfering with a unification of the ranks in the Arab world, according to the U.S. view, is Israel's intransigence in the peace process.

Therefore, Brown regards Israel's main contribution to the strengthening of the U.S. status in the region as additional concessions which will permit the Egyptians to sign the peace treaty.

Israel, of course, presents the opposite view. Last night the defense minister tried to convince his guest that the freeze in the Arab world is not fed solely by the Israeli-Arab dispute and that only an Israel-Egypt axis is stable enough to represent the beginning of pro-Western polarization in the Middle East.

But for the moment there is no sign that the Americans have been convinced, and this will certainly also lessen the chance of the United States responding to all the demands Israel is making in the sphere of aid.

According to the new long-term plan for military aid, Israel is asking for $1.5 billion a year for 5 years. Will the Americans now grant a sum they already refused a few months ago? It is doubtful. Experts from among Brown's aides hint at an annual aid of only a billion dollars, in the future as well. If there is any deviation from this sum, they say, it will only be in order to balance additional military aid which will apparently be given shortly to Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan. However, as far as can be seen, at least in one sphere the visit will bear fruit. This is in regard to Israel's request for special aid of $3.3 billion for the withdrawal from Sinai. This request is likely to be granted, at least most of it. It turns out that the Americans have a greater tendency to pay for peace than for the security after the peace.

Differences Denied

TA142120 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 14 Feb 79 TA

[Text] The Ministry of Defense spokesman explained this evening that in the deliberations held so far with the U.S. secretary of defense, the security establishment presented the IDF construction program and its needs for the coming years and there are no grounds for the report broadcast on television about differences of opinion with the visiting secretary. Up to now, the spokesman said, there was no reference by anyone in the U.S. delegation to these programs.

Our correspondent Beni Rom says that there will be at least one joint discussion before the U.S. secretary of defense leaves the country for Cairo in the morning the day after tomorrow. Tomorrow, Secretary Brown will tour Sinai and the Negev. Today he was in the Golan Heights, Judaea and Samaria.

RAKAH Demonstration

TA142140 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1930 GMT 14 Feb 79 TA

[Text] This evening, several dozen RAKAH members demonstrated at the U.S. Embassy on Hayarkon Street in Tel Aviv, condemning the visit by U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown to Israel.

The demonstration was unlicensed, but passed without disturbances. The police fenced off the sidewalk outside the embassy building and did not permit the demonstrators to approach. The demonstrators, who carried banners against the establishment of U.S. bases in the Negev, dispersed after less than an hour.

RAKAH Announcement

TA142141 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1940 GMT 14 Feb 79 TA

[Text] RAKAH announcement: This evening a demonstration was held by about a hundred RAKAH youth at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv, demanding that Brown, the U.S. minister of war [as received], leave the country.

The demonstrators carried banners saying: "Against the establishment of U.S. military bases in the Negev"; "Against the plans by the Government of Israel to keep U.S. 'order' to the last drop of blood of the last Israeli soldier"; "Brown go home, we do not want bases, we want peace."

The demonstration was held without a license. Policemen were present, but the demonstration passed quietly and without any incidents.

More on Peres Remarks

TA141941 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 14 Feb 79 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] A ceremonial dinner was given last night in honor of the U.S. secretary of defense, attended by Israel's political elite. During the dinner, a discussion developed between the opposition leader, Shim'on Peres, and the visiting secretary, and one of Brown's questions was: What would you, Mr Peres, do on the matter of Judaea and Samaria if you were prime minister today? There are several versions of Peres' reply, but the Likud people say that Peres undermined the political negotiations. Here is our Knesset correspondent Razi Barqay reporting on the affair and what sprang from it:

[Barqay] Again it is a question of a statement in English, a talk between Shim'on Peres and the U.S. secretary of defense, and again there are interpretations: What did Peres really say to Brown. There were eight ministers at the dinner and at least one of them, Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin, confirmed that the opposition leader did indeed speak about removing settlements in the Jordan rift valley. At any rate, the chairman of the coalition, Hayim Corfu, relied on reports of last night's meeting and hurried to submit an urgent proposal for the agenda.

[Begin recording--Corfu] According to the version I heard from those who were present at the meal, MK Shim'on Peres said that if the alinement were in power today, it would agree to the removal of Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria and, under certain conditions, he would not care if the Jordan rift valley settlements were to come under Jordanian sovereignty.

[Barqay] Shim'on Peres completely denies that he referred to settlements in the Jordan rift valley.

[Corfu] A few minutes ago I had the opportunity of hearing one of the ministers who was present, and he confirms the version I mentioned.

[Barqay] The deputy prime minister?

[Corfu] Right.

[Barqay] So, you claim that Shim'on Peres informed the U.S. secretary of defense that the Alinement would be prepared to remove settlements in Judaea and Samaria and in the Jordan rift valley?

[Corfu] Right. And more than that; he would be prepared to let the Jordan rift valley settlements come under Jordanian rule.

[Barqay] On what are you basing what you say? Who was present at that meeting with the U.S. secretary of defense?

[Corfu] Some 8 or 10 ministers took part and the top echelon of the Labor Party. Shim'on Peres was there, Rabin, Bar-Lev and the minister of the interior, the deputy prime minister, the minister of justice, the minister of agriculture and the defense minister. There was a very respectable group. Only a few minutes ago I heard the deputy prime minister's version, which confirms what I said. [end recording]

[Barqay] Why does Mr Corfu hide his sources of information, Mr Shim'on Peres asks. This is a bad habit, he says, and gives his version of his talks with the defense secretary.

[Begin recording--Peres] I said, and I repeat: The Alinement supports territorial compromise in Judaea and Samaria, which means that a section of Judaea and Samaria, the part most populated by Arabs, should be given over the Arab, Jordanian rule. After that, I was asked another question: What would be the fate of the settlements in those areas we intend to return? I said: They would live under Jordanian sovereignty. After that, we were asked about the Jordan rift valley. We said specifically that this did not involve the valley or the rift valley settlements because the Alinement position on this point is specific and clear, and it may be that people who did not understand what was being discussed...recently we have been having difficulities with the English language in the State of Israel...anything can happen.

[Barqay] Mr Peres, does the partition you made yesterday not hint at the fact that settlements that the Alinement government established would remain on the map of the State of Israel and settlements established by the Likud would be transferred to Jordan?

[Peres] I will tell you simply: The siting of the settlements reveals the political view of each of the two parties. We make no secret of this. It is not a matter of: that is your party, this is mine. We established settlements in places where we think we should remain. The Likud disagrees with us. It established settlements in other places. The differences of opinion remain and this is also expressed on the map.

[Barqay] Do you not think that such a statement could harm the political effort, the political struggle?

[Peres] Really! We speak about this in the Knesset every day, in the press. Do you think the Americans do not read about it? [end recording]

[Barqay] These, then, are the two versions. The Likud says: Peres is undermining the government's policy; and Shim'on Peres says: My views and those of the Alinement are no secret. This affair will certainly reach the Knesset assembly next week.

[Announcer] Our correspondent reports that Secretary of the Labor Party Hayim Bar-Lev, who heard the conversation, has also denied that Peres hinted in his remarks at the possibility of evacuating settlements in the Jordan rift valley.

JERUSALEM: U.S. SAYS BROWN TOUR MARKS NO POLICY CHANGE

TA150609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 15 Feb 79 TA

[Text] The United States has made clear that Defense Secretary Harold Brown's West Bank and Golan tour should not be regarded as a change in U.S. policy with regard to the territories. The State Department spokesman emphasized that most of the time Secretary Brown was flying in a helicopter and made only two landings to observe the area. The entire tour, he said, was intended to view the security problems which will emerge when the Camp David agreements are implemented.

Today Harold Brown will tour the Sinai and the Negev as well as IDF air bases. This evening he will once again meet with Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman and tomorrow he will leave for Egypt.

Brown Tours Sinai

TA151449 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 15 Feb 79 TA

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown and his entourage toured the Sinai today. They were accompanied by Defense Minister Weizman and the leadership of the defense establishment. The guests visited IDF installations including the 'Eytam and 'Etzyon airfields and, flying low over the area, obtained impressions about the topographical structure of the Sinai and the strategic importance of the Sinai and the Negev.

Secretary Brown told our correspondent Beni Rom that he learned much from his tours yesterday and today and that he now understands the situation much better than before. He was deeply impressed by what he saw. Brown said that the atmosphere of the talks and discussions is most friendly.

During the flight and tours of the areas, Secretary Brown received explanations from Minister Weizman, from Air Force commander David 'Ivri and from Navy commander Ze'ev Almog. Maj Gen Natan Sharoni, the head of the General Headquarters Planning Branch, also took part in the explanations.

Minister Weizman emphasized to our correspondent that in the course of the talks views were exchanged on various subjects, including the Iranian issue and the latest developments in the region. The objective of the tour, according to the defense minister, is to enable the visiting secretary and his entourage to get a close impression of the power and importance of the Sinai approaches and the various aspects involved in the evacuation of this area.

Minister Weizman added that undoubtedly the U.S. delegation is aware that Israel's power should be maintained. In the face of the strengthening of the Arab armies, the IDF has to introduce more sophisticated and modern means into its systems. Minister Weizman said he does not expect any problems in this sphere.

Another discussion is now taking place between Secretary Brown and his entourage and the defense minister and the heads of the defense establishment.

Weizman on Tour

TA151756 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 15 Feb 79 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown and his entourage toured the Sinai Peninsula and the Negev today. The U.S. entourage visited the Sinai airfields, artillery and armored forces bases and various Israeli installations which Israel is supposed to evacuate if the peace agreement is signed with Egypt. Harold Brown was accompanied by Defense Minister Weizman. The following is Weizman's summation of the tour:

[begin recording] First, these are practical talks between practical people. My feeling is--and I am confident that Secretary Brown came here willing not just to listen and to sigh but to listen and to find solutions--I think there was a rather mistaken feeling in the beginning, as though there was a strange atmosphere. There was surely an argument about whether we would visit Judaea and Samaria, and the fact is that the visit was made. The reason for this, my reason at least, is that the Judaea and Samaria security problem should be seen. The atmosphere is good. We exchanged views in an entirely free manner. You can see this for yourselves, since you are sitting about 3 meters away from us. We are now landing in 'Etzyon, and this evening we will concretely sum up several things with the aim of reaching practical conclusions. [end recording]

Military Correspondent on Tour

TA160956 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Feb 79 TA

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown will leave Israel tomorrow morning at the end of a 3-day visit. Today, accompanied by the defense minister, he toured the Sinai and the new redeployment areas in the Negev. At the end of the tour, the two ministers met for a working meeting to conclude the visit, with the participation of senior officers and heads of the defense establishment. Following this, experts will in the near future hold talks on implementing the subjects which the ministers discussed. Our military correspondent 'Amiram Nir joined the U.S. defense secretary's tour.

[Begin videotape--Nir] As the purpose of the tour of the Golan Heights and Judaea and Samaria yesterday was to make the visitor aware of the dangers on the eastern front, so the tour today was intended to illustrate to Harold Brown the meaning of the withdrawal from the Sinai and the redeployment in the Negev.

[Weizman] The purpose of the flight was to get an aerial view of the area to assess, on the one hand, the size of the Sinai, and on the other hand, of course, the problems of the size of the Negev. On taking off from Tel Aviv, we flew over and saw Jerusalem and all the other areas which are not related to the specific issue of the current visit to the Sinai. I think that from the air the difference between the green of the west versus the grey and brown of the east was rather clear.

[Nir] 'Ezer Weizman asked his U.S. colleague for only 3.3 billion dollars for carrying out the withdrawal from the Sinai. The main bulk of this sum--over 1 billion dollars--is slated for the transfer of the 'Etzyon and Eytam airfields to the Negev. From a high observation point, Harold Brown and his aides reviewed the area of the entire 'Etzyon field. Maj Gen David 'Ivri [commander of the air force] provided the professional explanations, while 'Ezer Weizman--who also has some understanding of aviation--talked about the implications. Brown listened attentively, and from time to time asked questions which demonstrated a thorough preliminary preparation and a deep knowledge--a respectable combination of virtues in one man, even if the media are not too satisfied with him as an interviewee.

And again, we flew ahead. After he had seen the Negev and the planned sites for the new airfields from the air, the U.S. secretary of defense was given an aerial tour of Sharm ash-Shaykh and from there, along the center of Sinai, to Refidim [Bi'r Jifjafah] and to the Eytam airfield. Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman did not tire of continuing to load his visitor with information and evaluations. Brown, for his part, did not tire of listening.

What impressed Brown more than anything, one of his aides said afterwards, was this great vastness which, during the discussions at the Pentagon, seemed to be much smaller on the map.

Is this the main significance of the visit here; the direct impression and the detailed information from a primary source? This will be learned later, at the end of the summing up discussion which will be held in the afternoon.

[Weizman--in English, during the flight] We are going to discuss for the first time this afternoon the nasty things of dollars and airplanes and guns. Obviously, there are a few things that we want to discuss. I am not talking about whether it's a million, a billion, or a billion and a half, but definitely there is going to be a suggestion, a request that will be beneficial for both countries when we come to conclusions. But whether it's this amount or that amount, we haven't even started talking about it.

[Nir] At the discussion hall in a military airfield in the center of the country, the summing up discussion was held after an intensive 3-day visit. This time it was a bilateral discussion. The Americans talked and the heads of the defense establishment talked. But the major speakers were Harold Brown and 'Ezer Weizman themselves. The Americans stated their estimate concerning the danger from the eastern front after peace arrives. They also expressed their opinion on the question of the cost of building the airfields in the Negev. The talk was substantial and to the point, as was proven by the presence of the head of the Finance Ministry's budget branch.

The conclusions: Several important pieces of armament for Israel were approved and the general dimensions of some of the sums of aid. A delegation of U.S. experts will remain in Israel even after the defense secretary leaves and they will work out details of the issues which have not yet been concluded. The two parties emerged more or less satisfied.

A few more ceremonial events are expected to take place this evening, and tomorrow morning Harold Brown will fly to Egypt. [end videotape]

Israeli Requests Detailed

TA151825 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 15 Feb 79 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] The new procurement plan Israel is presenting to the United States is valued at $7.5 billion. This program, presented by Defense Minister Weizman to U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown, is 25 percent smaller than the previous procurement program, called Matmon C, which amounted to $10 billion. Our military correspondent reports that the new procurement program was presented to Secretary Brown on the first day of his visit in Israel. The discussion of this program will take place and perhaps the U.S. reaction to it will be forthcoming at the continuation of the talks between the U.S. and Israeli teams this evening, prior to Brown's departure for Cairo tomorrow. Our military correspondent Tal Ravina reports:

[Begin recording] The new procurement program that was presented in detail to the U.S. secretary of defense and his aides will cost Israel $7.5 billion, about 25 percent less than what Israel had to pay for the Matmon C procurement plan. The new program takes the place of Matmon C and is based on the purchase of modern and sophisticated equipment which includes various types of arms and different electronic systems. The program has been consolidated over the last few weeks in the Defense Ministry and in the IDF headquarters and planning branches. The formulators of the plan took three major factors into consideration: 1) The changes expected in the Arab armies in the coming years; 2) The establishment of the eastern front based on the military power of Syria and Iraq, power which is mainly fed by the East European arms industry; and 3) The possibility that the IDF will have to evacuate the Sinai and redeploy in the Negev area.

It should be noted that Israel has already undertaken to buy equipment in the United States at a cost of $2.8 billion out of the total sum of the cancelled Matmon C procurement program, whose range of implementation was supposed to spread over 10 years beginning in 1976. Apart from presenting the new procurement program, the Israeli representatives in the talks with Brown and his aides also brought Israel's request for financial aid amounting to $3.3 billion to cover the expenses of the evacuation from the Sinai and the redeployment in the Negev. It should be noted that $0.3 billion of this sum is intended for the erection of the settlement system planned for the Negev. [end recording]

Brown Press Conference

TA160408 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Feb 79 TA

[Text] A press conference given by U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown ended a short while ago in Tel Aviv, concluding Brown's visit to Israel. Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman said that his talks with Brown ended in a satisfactory manner. Our military correspondent 'Amiram Nir reports that Brown said that the discussions on the matter of military aid to Israel were partially completed, and in a favorable way for Israel in regard to some of the subjects. However, the U.S. secretary of defense added that this is an ongoing process and there will be additional contacts in the near future.

Further Details

TA160409 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 15 Feb 79 TA

[Text] The U.S. secretary of defense said his talks in Israel were sincere and that the contacts between the Defense Ministry and the Pentagon will be resumed within a few weeks. Teams of experts from both sides will intermittently meet in Israel and in Washington. Harold Brown said this this evening in a joint press conference with Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman in Tel Aviv.

'Ezer Weizman said that in the last few weeks Israel has proved that its stability is important for stability in the region, and Harold Brown noted that he perfectly agreed with Weizman. According to him, Israel's stability stemming from the fact that it is a democracy and from its military power has in many cases served as a deterrent to outside aggression.

Harold Brown said that one of the objectives of his visit in the region is to renew the trust in U.S. military power. In answer to a question, he said that the events in Iran do not indicate the failure of the U.S. arms supplied to this country and that no weaponry in the world can establish internal stability in any country.

Our correspondent Dan Eshel has learned that in the talks the Americans have complied with many of Israel's procurement requests.

Brown Leaves for Cairo

TA161147 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 16 Feb 79 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown left this morning for Cairo at the end of a 4-day visit to Israel. At Ben-Gurion Airport Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman bid him farewell. Weizman said he was bidding the guest farewell with a good feeling and that he believed that the good relations between the Israeli and U.S. defense establishments will continue to be what they have been up to now.

Our correspondent Dan Eshel was at Ben-Gurion Airport, and he reports:

[Begin recording--Weizman] I also believe that the U.S. team headed by Secretary Brown has received a strong impression of our problems and that we will mutually reach the correct solutions.

[Eshel] These were Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman's concluding words in his farewell speech. The visiting secretary replied warmly: This is my first visit to Israel, but I find consolation in the fact that this will not be the last. He added: With the help of my friend 'Ezer Weizman I was able to see a lot and in a very short time. My impression exceeded the expectations I had before I came.

As for the talks he held in Israel, Brown said that they were beneficial and constructive.

[Brown--in English] For my part, I've emphasized that the United States intends to play a more active role in consort with our friends in this vital region of the world. I emphasized also--and I want to reemphasize now--the continuing commitment of the United States to Israel's security.

[Eshel translates the above into Hebrew and continues] The United States and Israel are democratic countries, Brown added, and great strength is embedded in democracy, and we are obliged to use this strength and take the opportunity to bring peace and stability to the Middle East.

The decrease in Israel's procurement requests was a subject which interested the press during Brown's visit. Yesterday, Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman was asked about it, and he replied in a manner which was noncommital with respect to the extent of the decrease:

[Weizman--in English] You can also ask the question why previous requests were so big. I think that between previous requests and present requirements, we came to the right conclusion.

[Eshel translates the above into Hebrew and continues] Harold Brown's spokesman refused 2 days ago to reply to my question on this issue, but U.S. officials confirmed today that there has indeed been a decrease by 20 to 25 percent in Israel's procurement requests following the shelving of the Matmon C plan. At the same time, the official stressed that Harold Brown was not surprised by the decrease. [end recording]

U.S. PROPOSALS TO BE HEARD PRIOR TO CAMP DAVID

TA141619 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Feb 79 p 2 TA

[By Yosef Harif]

[Excerpt] As requested by Israel, U.S. Ambassador in Israel Samuel Lewis will meet with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan in order to bring to his attention the ideas the United States intends to raise in the ministerial meeting at Camp David. It is not yet clear whether the United States will give Israel all details of the proposals it is going to make in order to settle the disputed questions, but it will apparently be ready to report in a general manner on the ideas which in its opinion should be focused upon during discussions. This announcement on behalf of the embassy came in the wake of an Israeli appeal to the United States made after Sunday's Cabinet meeting. It was agreed at the meeting that in the time left before the opening of the Camp David talks Israel will ask the United States for information about the contents of the U.S. proposals.

In answer to a question, it was reported this morning that the meeting between the ambassador and the foreign minister will be held in a few days. For the time being, no precise date has been set. It is assumed that the meeting will be held before the next Cabinet meeting, at which the political issues will be summed up prior to Minister Dayan's departure for the United States. In the Cabinet meeting Israel will be given details pertaining to the agenda and procedures of the Camp David discussions in addition to the general contents mentioned above.

HA'ARETZ: ISRAEL MORE FLEXIBLE ON FOUNDING OF AUTONOMY

TA151112 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Feb 79 pp 1, 2 TA

[By 'Uzi Benziman and Yo'el Marcus]

[Excerpt] A significant change was noticed recently in the government's position on one of the main problems concerning the founding of the autonomy: Israel explained to the United States that it was prepared to split into two periods of time the source of the authority which is to determine the way of life in the autonomy to be established in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza.

For the first 2 years after autonomy is founded, the source of the authority will be the military government and for the 3 years after that the agreement by which the autonomy is founded will be the source.

The question of the source of autonomy authority has been part of the negotiations between Israel and Egypt since the program for self-rule was drawn up more than a year ago. Up to now Israel has insisted that with the founding of autonomy, the laws of the military government will remain the supreme source of authority for determining the way of life in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. For this reason, Israel set forth in its program that it is not the military government which will be cancelled, but the military government's administration--that is, the open apparatus running the military government establishment in the territories. As Israel understands, the military government law was to remain valid in autonomy, which, in accordance with the Camp David agreements, will for the moment last for 5 years.

There has recently been a significant change in Israel's approach. Prime Minister Menahem Begin is now prepared to have the military government law prevail under autonomy for only the first years, out of the 5 years of autonomy, while for the 3 years after that the source of authority (from which laws will be drawn and procedures decided which determine the way of life in the above regions) will be the agreement on which the autonomy is founded. In this way Israel is partially responding to the demand of Egypt and the United States that the agreement on founding autonomy be the source of authority for the way of life which prevails. The Israeli concession is only partial since, according to the views of Cairo and Washington, the autonomy agreement was to have been the source of authority for the whole 5 years, while Israel has agreed to only 3 years--and for the first 2 years it wants the laws of the military government to be the source of authority.

The question of the source of authority in the territories has a decisive, practical significance regarding the nature of life in autonomy: If the source of authority is the military government law, Israel is entitled, by force of this law, to intervene in what goes on within the autonomy spheres. However, if the source of authority is the agreement to establish autonomy, then Israel's ability to intervene is more restricted, being dependent on authority which will be granted to it in the agreement to be signed between it and Egypt, Jordan and Palestinian representatives. However, the Camp David agreement states that the agreement on founding autonomy, which defines the spheres of activity of the autonomy institutions and of Israel, must be obtained through agreement of the four above elements, and any change in it must also be accepted by general agreement. This order gives Israel a superficial guarantee against a change in the authorities of the self-rule institutions if it does not agree to it.

It appears that the change in Israel's position regarding the source of the authority has been accepted concerning the second Camp David conference which is due to begin next week in Washington. By agreeing that the source of authority in autonomy will be the agreement on its foundation after the first 2 years, Israel is trying to demonstrate flexibility and increase the chances of achieving agreement with Egypt on the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and on the link between the change in their status (through conducting autonomy) and the implementation of the Israeli-Egyptian agreement. These issues will be at the center of the Camp David talks, along with questions involving the status of the Israeli-Egyptian treaty in comparison with agreements Egypt has with other countries.

The government will be given general information about the U.S. compromise proposals which will be put forward in the negotiations before the foreign minister leaves for Washington. It appears that the first details about the nature of the U.S. proposals have already been brought to the knowledge of the prime minister. For the moment, it is planned that only advisers and aides from his ministry will leave with the foreign minister, without any representatives from the prime minister's office, the Ministry of Defense or the Ministry of Justice, although this trend may change.

DAYAN ON IMPORTANCE OF SHARM ASH-SHAYKH

TA150923 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Feb 79 p 2 TA

[By 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan decided yesterday that in view of the events in Iran, Israel must show great alertness concerning the developments in the Persian Gulf and again recall the strategic importance of Sharm ash-Shaykh.

In an internal discussion in the Foreign Ministry, Mr Dayan said that Israel must analyze the significance of the events in Iran. Among other things, he decided that the U.S. ability to intervene in what happens in other countries is different when the countries are harmed by an extremist element or when a change occurs in their regimes as a result of an internal revolution.

In the second event--as has been proved in Iran--the United States shows helplessness. The foreign minister emphasized that the possible influence of what is happening in Iran on the entire Persian Gulf should not deter Israel which must continue to carry on the negotiations with Egypt. On the contrary, the minister said, the negotiations must continue and must be brought to a conclusion, but the political contacts with Cairo should be maintained with awareness of the lack of stability inherent in the area.

MORE ON WEST BANK COMMENT ON DAYAN'S PLO REMARKS

TA141146 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 14 Feb 79 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] In Judaea and Samaria, people are trying to find in the remarks Foreign Minister Dayan made yesterday a hint of a possible change in Israel's policy. At the same time, it is possible to find disappointment with the remarks Dayan made last night at the Likud Knesset faction meeting. Here is our correspondent Arye Gus's review:

[Begin recording] The disappointment especially stands out in the editorial in ASH-SHA'B. Dayan only said a tiny bit of what the world community says, the newspaper says, and has already angered government circles. He only stated a little bit of the great truth: He merely said that the PLO cannot be ignored, and nevertheless was forced to take back his words. In the evening, Dayan was forced to swallow what he had said in the morning, ASH-SHA'B says. It would be possible to react to the announcements made by the Israeli foreign minister as the beginning of an Israeli recognition of the truth in the conflict and the beginning of a realistic concept if Dayan had not rescinded his words. But Israel has reemphasized the basic content of its policy and the dramatic turn for which Dayan's declarations could have paved the way seems today very distant and is overshadowed by the noise of bulldozers and the sound of the band prepared for the U.S. defense secretary.

AL-QUDS is not despairing, even after the clarifications and the denials. These do not detract from the importance of the declaration, the paper says, and in fact were expected in advance. Dayan is no novice in politics and therefore it is inconceivable that he should falter over a slip of the tongue, the paper says. Dayan, AL-QUDS adds, did not bring something new, but the very declaration made by a prominent Israeli politician, a declaration which recognizes the civilian and representational character of the PLO, should be given all importance despite the storm that was raised and the protests of the extremists.

According to AL-QUDS, Dayan's words should be understood as the beginning of a realistic trend in Israel's policy, a trend which was forced upon it by the events in the Middle East. It is not unavoidable that soon we shall hear similar U.S. declarations in support of this approach, the paper writes, what with the fact that the statements were made on the day the U.S. secretary of defense arrived in Israel. [end recording]

HERUT LOYALISTS CALL FOR DAYAN DISMISSAL

TA151232 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 15 Feb 79 TA

[Text] In Israel the group calling itself Loyalists to the Principles of the Herut Movement has demanded the immediate dismissal of Foreign Minister Dayan in the wake of his remarks on the PLO this week. The group is also asking the prime minister to suspend the proposed ministerial talks at Camp David and to reevaluate Israel's internal situation in the light of the latest developments in the region.

RABIN CALLS FOR SPEEDING UP SIGNING OF PEACE TREATY

TA142130 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 Feb 79 TA

[Text] The main conclusion that can be drawn from the events in Iran is that the process of signing the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt must be speeded up, MK Yitzhaq Rabin said this evening while appearing in Haifa before representatives of the clerks' union within the Labor Party. MK Rabin confirmed that in view of the extremist revelations [as received] in Iran, led by radical elements on the one hand and extremist Muslims on the other, the signing of the peace treaty would be a stabilizing factor permitting the beginning of the crystallization of a balance of countries [as received].

MK Rabin added that there was no doubt that in the wake of the events in Iran the threats to moderate Arab countries cooperating with the free world and the United States in the Middle East have increased. In his view, Israel and Egypt must move toward each other because this is the only way to achieve the agreement. We must not miss the agreement now, particularly after the extremist Muslim takeover of control in Iran.

Rabin on Political Situation

TA151858 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1610 GMT 15 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Tel Aviv, 15 February--If we have no choice but to get involved in a confrontation with the United States, it is preferrable to do so in the year of the presidential elections there. If we get involved in a confrontation with Egypt on the matter of the establishment of autonomy, it is preferrable that the crisis breaks out while we are holding onto the Al 'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line. This was said today by MK Yitzhaq Rabin in an appearance before the Israeli-U.S. Chamber of Industry and Commerce in ZDA [Zionists of America] House in Tel Aviv.

Rabin said that the U.S. position worries him no less than Egypt's, and that it is possible that Israel will find itself in a hard political confrontation with its great friend.

In Rabin's assessment, the peace treaty with Egypt will be signed, but not before another big summit meeting, and therefore the second Camp David conference will be only a preparatory meeting for this summit. The major test for the success of the peace agreement will not be its signing but the processes that will develop over the 5 to 7 years following the signing, Rabin said. "If we insist on results before this period of 5 to 7 years, it would surely not be for the better," he added. In that period, the burden shouldered by Israel will not become lighter, since it will have to go through the security and economic efforts of the withdrawal, the redeployment and continued strengthening.

In the view of the former prime minister, the developments in Iran may lead to new estimates in the West and the conclusions drawn from these estimates will not necessarily be in the direction of increased support for Israel.

Referring to the eastern front, Rabin said that no Zionist party in Israel will agree to hand over governmental responsibility for Judaea and Samaria settlements to local authorities identifiable with the PLO. In his opinion, if Israel does not control these areas from the security point of view, the West Bank will turn into one big terrorists' nest.

Rabin also believed that it will be very difficult to reach agreement with Egypt regarding such issues as the powers of the autonomy and the regulations and procedures of elections. Therefore, Rabin believes that Egypt's desire to continue with the peace process will be tested while we still sit on the Ra's Muhammad-Al 'Arish line and when the three airfields and Sharm ash-Shaykh are still in our hands.

JEWISH AGENCY PREPARING NEW SETTLEMENT PROGRAM

TA141600 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 14 Feb 79 TA

[Text] The chairman of the Jewish Agency Settlement Department, Matityahu Drobles, has reported that a siting program is now being prepared for 25 settlements in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, most of them for Gush Emunim. When plans are completed it will be possible to establish permanent settlements. According to Drobles, the government this week decided to regard Elon More as a permanent settlement. He reported further that the government recently decided to provide the Shilo settlers with everything needed for livelihood, but not with things needed for production, since it does not regard Shilo as a permanent settlement.

PFLP-GC WILL NOT RETURN ISRAELI PRISONER FROM LEBANON

TA150611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Feb 79 TA

[Text] The Popular Front-General Command's terrorist group says it will not release Israeli soldier Avraham 'Amram, who was taken prisoner in south Lebanon. It said it would not link the case of 'Amram with the release of 14 Lebanese civilians held in Israel last week.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON EVENTS, ACTIVITIES OF 15 FEB

Yusofabad Residents Harassed

LD151332 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1100 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The people who live around Fatimah Zahra Mosque--peace be upon her--in Yusofabad have reported that a number of unknown persons have troubled and molested their families at various times. I beg the Mujahidin to keep an eye on this.

Airfields To Open

LD151334 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1122 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Attention! Please pay attention! The air force personnel at Kish Island, Jask and Chah Bahar should open their airfields since the air force is carrying provisions for these places.

Garbage Collection

LD151336 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1206 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] We have a message from the Operational Staff of the government: Will all the municipality employees engaged in refuse collection please resume their activities as soon as possible.

Deceptive Demands for Money

LD151338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1219 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Please pay attention! Certain venal persons are demanding money and other assistance from the people in the name of revolution committees for hospitals and other institutions. We wish to bring to the attention of all our compatriots that they should not give any money or assistance to such persons; and should they wish to give help they should go to the committees stationed in the mosques and other places.

Weapons Experts Called to Bagh-e Shah

LD151426 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1321 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] All the ammunition and air and land weapons experts of Fighter Base No 1 and of the air corps are requested to come to Bagh-e Shah in order to identify ammunition and to prevent explosions. Similarly, members of the airborne brigade, that is the green berets, are requested to come to Bagh-e Shah on Saturday at 0900.

Technicians Called In

LD151428 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1325 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The army's aviation industries organization has immediate need of its technicians. These persons must report to the relevant section as soon as possible.

[Signed] The Operational Staff of the Provisional Revolutionary Government.

Khomeyni Meets Bazaar Representatives

LD151430 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] It was announced this morning that a group of people from Tehran Bazaar had had a meeting with His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni in order to prepare for the reopening of the bazaar. During the talks that ensued the ayatollah graciously instructed the people to undertake to insure the security of the bazaar themselves.

Shari'at-Madari Appeal to Tabriz

LD151454 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Please pay attention to a message from Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate; zealous national army of Tabriz, the reports in hand indicate that the situation in Tabriz has become insecure and that mercenaries and agents of the former regime have resorted to killing and looting the innocent and heroic citizens of Tabriz. It is said that elements among you are failing to carry out your national role as you should or to cooperate with the strugglers and fighters of the revolution, and by remaining neutral and keeping the people unarmed you are making them victims of this sinister plot. It is, therefore, up to you to do the following:

Should such elements be among you, you should identify them to the people and strongly demand their replacement. Do not heed their contrary orders, and remember that Azarbayjan is the head of Iran and that this head's monolithic security is now entrusted to you.

Carry out your historic role, identify the mercenaries of the former regime to the people by informing on them and propose national people to your command.

In the meantime, place sufficient quantities of arms at the disposal of the city's ulema so that the people can cooperate in defending themselves, safeguarding the lives of the inhabitants and the city's security.

Peace, mercy and the benedictions of God be upon you. Thursday, 15 February 1979.

[Signed] Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari.

Appeal Not To Obstruct Police

LD151538 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Please pay attention to a message from Ayatollah Montazeri Najafabadi:

In the name of the almighty: While thanking you for your acts of self-sacrifice, religious and zealous people and the sacred revolutionary movement, in pursuance of Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni's command which must be obeyed--may his glory last--it is essential that you should not impede in any way whatsoever the law enforcement and military forces, whether the police, gendarmerie or the army, and you should allow the law enforcement forces to carry out their entrusted tasks.

Of course, corrupt persons who ought to be prosecuted have been identified and, with the succor of God, will receive their punishment in the near future.

[Signed] On behalf of the professor of the Qom scientific authority, Montazeri.

Appeal to Army, Police

LD151608 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1511 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Please pay attention to a message from the chief of staff of the national army:

All the members of the army, police and gendarmerie, who in the recent events left their place of duty, are called upon to return to their units as soon as possible in order to make arrangements for their service in the national army of Iran. It is axiomatic that their dereliction of duty has been forgiven. Similarly, all the members of the army, the police and gendarmerie who deserted their barracks at the command of the imam, while appreciation is expressed for their action, are also called upon to return to their barracks.

[Signed] Chief of Staff of the national army Major General Qarani.

Moroccan Embassy Occupied

LD151624 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Some 50 fighters from the Iranian nation, in their search for SAVAK agents, have occupied the Moroccan Embassy in Tehran.

School, University Reopenings

LD151634 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1503 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Please pay attention to a message from the prime minister's office:

In support of the message from the Imam Khomeyni pertaining to the opening of schools and universities, the public is hereby informed that decisions on the acceptance of pupils and students and the beginning of teaching and lecturing will be made by the university councils, headmasters and home school associations.

Relief Committees

LD151636 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1602 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The revolution's radio and television organization advises all spiritual leaders and responsible people in various cities, townships and villages, if they have not so far taken steps to set up local relief committees, to pay special attention to this important matter, particularly at Sanandaj's (Ferqeh) township, where there is a great need for this.

Ammunition To Be Handed In

LD151728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The Operational Staff of the Islamic revolution has pointed out in a statement that all unauthorized persons in possession of ammunition must immediately hand over the ammunition to the preallocated centers, and take the following steps first:

1. Ammunition should not be handled or placed near flames;

2. Do not use a knife to split open the ammunition; be careful not to drop it;

3. Delivery of ammunition to the required centers must take place under extreme care.

Radio, TV Organization Rules

LD152013 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1752 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear sisters, brothers and compatriots. It has been only for the past 2 or 3 days that our radio and television organization has become the voice of revolution, the Islamic revolution and the true voice of the Iranian nation after 25 years as the expression of the voice and profile of despotism and colonialism, especially during the past 15 years.

In expressing this view, I must point out that shortcomings are many, and you know that. After a 3-month strike by the employees of the organization, not everyone is back at work. Consequently, the organization's apparatus is not working properly. However, relying on God's favor and the people's cooperation, there is hope that we might be able to operate the organization in the service of our Islamic revolution.

As I pointed out, this organization has been in the service of despotism and colonialism over the past 25 years. It only introduced the profile and voice of despotism and colonialism to you. From now on, nothing but your voice and your profile will be presented, as long as we live. This organization enjoyed a colossal sum of money from the treasury of this poor nation; it had a budget amounting to nearly 2 billion tomans per year. It was subsidized by a poor nation in order to feed a certain group and to buy prostitute intellectuals so that they might ram the shahanshah theory down everyone's throat.

In this organization, perhaps with (?9,000) employees, a small number of individuals held responsible positions, enjoying astronomical privileges and carte blanche, devouring everything, plundering everything and ruining everything, while a great many others lived in poverty on low salaries, working long hours. This picture symbolizes other government departments as well.

I must stress that, God willing, from now on no such colossal salaries will be paid; neither will those unaccountable privileges be given to anyone. Salaries will be established decisively, unwarranted privileges will be eliminated, the salaries of the low paid will be increased; thus a balance in salary scale and living conditions will be created.

I am not saying that everyone will be paid the same. However, there is no reason whatsoever for a director general to receive 30,000 tomans, 40,000 or 50,000 tomans in salary, while the poor man who has been mistreated by society and is living in poverty and is only doing his job receives 1,200 or 1,300 tomans. This is not the sort of Islamic justice for which we have risen. There must exist some sort of balance between living conditions. They have built modern and beautiful villas for the directors general of this organization; they will be returned to the people. If it is possible to house families of employees of the organization in these villas, every few in one villa, we will do so; for we cannot tolerate economic oppression. God willing, the landlord-peasant system will never exist again.

Airline Employees to Report

LD151840 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1822 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] We have an important announcement from the national Iranian airlines. Please pay attention: The coordinating council of the national Iranian airlines staff announces that, in view of the statement issued by Ayatollah Khomeyni concerning the ending of strikes throughout the country, Iranian (?technicians) and flight engineers of the airline are requested to report to the Iranian airlines club at 0800 tomorrow. Considering the need for trial flights which are to begin as of tomorrow at Mehrabad Airport, all Mujahidin and fighters are requested to avoid firing into the air at the airport.

Air Force Personnel Recalled

LD151900 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1835 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The following message has been issued by the office of the prime minister:

1. All air force personnel of units stationed in the capital city, wherever they are, must report to their respective units, for the air force is required to maintain order in Tehran as long as there is no national guard ready. Therefore, the personnel's presence is necessary in the said units;

2. The guarding and policing of Tehran is entrusted to the air force personnel;

3. As you know, keeping weapons in houses is dangerous, for unidentified individuals will raid houses in order to obtain them. Therefore, please hand over your weapons to the centers allocated as soon as possible.

[Signed] The prime minister's office.

Cabinet Meets

LD151952 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] This afternoon, the cabinet met under Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan at the office of the prime minister. During the meeting, four important drafts were approved which include: Preparing the draft for the confiscation of the house of Pahlavi property; establishment of a revolutionary court; investigation of the property of former cabinet ministers and officials of former governments; and preparing a draft for the formation of an administrative justice commission.

SAVAK Agents Attacked Radio

LD152159 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to the PATS news agency, it appears that some supporters of the former regime are hatching new plots in order to create fear and panic, and possibly harm the great Islamic revolution. Last night, some armed groups, who are believed to be the remnants of SAVAK mercenaries, tried to raid the National Iranian Radio and Television Organization, PATS news agency, the writers' and journalists' estate and certain other social centers in Tehran.

Following these attacks, the brunt of which was suffered by the radio, an appeal was made to the revolutionary committee for help. In response to this call, armed and struggling young men arrived at the radio and PATS news agency, and ended the plot. Another attack launched on the writers' and journalists' estate by some unidentified armed men was also foiled by the inhabitants of the estate. In the meantime, these groups attacked several other spots in Tehran, but the attacks were neutralized when young fighters opened fire.

The trend shows that limited groups of antipopular elements have been hatching these attacks, that it is the same group moving from one area to another, first, to give the impression that the attacks are extensive, and second, to create fear and panic among the people. Informed observers believe that these acts are being carried out by the remnants of the hated regime, who wish to create discord and take advantage of the situation.

Shari'at-Madari Calls on Tabriz

LD152210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued today by Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, addressed to the people of Tabriz:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Faithful and brave people of Tabriz. Now that we are passing through very sensitive and historic moments, I am calling on you to pay extreme attention to the following points:

1. The weapons seized from the army belong to Muslims, and it will be religiously unlawful to use them for other purposes but defense and crushing mercenary elements. Hand over the weapons to revolutionary committees of the city so that they might be distributed among authorized and qualified people under the supervision of the ulema.

2. Creating chaos and anarchy serves the interests of the enemy. Therefore, maintain your calm and order, and avoidunnecessary shooting and wasting ammunition.

3. It is up to the eminent ulema to have individuals organized and trained by qualified and skilled persons.

4. I reiterate that any incident which might occur as a result of failure to obey orders or lack of alertness would involve religious responsibilities. It is therefore incumbent upon the faithful to obey orders. Peace, mercy and the benedictions of God be upon you. 15 February 1979.

[Signed] Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari.

Sunni Leader Meets Khomeyni

LD152136 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to PARS news agency, Mr Sheykh Mo'tasem, leader of the Naqshbandiyeh order in Iran, Iraq and Turkey, who lives in Sanandaj, Kurdestan, at 0800 this morning met His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni. He was accompanied by a group of ulema from various parts of Kurdestan. During the meeting, while explaining his participation in national and Islamic struggles launched by the Iranian people, he spoke about the identity of views between Shi'ites and Sunnis and the indivisibility of Imam Khomeyni's leadership. He strongly denied the rumor regarding any separatism. He expressed his loyalty to the Islamic republic under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni.

Sanandaj Guard Issues Statement

LD152141 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued by the head of the 28th division of the Sanandaj guard, addressed to the people of Kurdestan:

In the name of God. Now that under Imam Khomeyni's leadership we are embracing freedom and have achieved the Islamic revolutionary goals, I take this opportunity to extend my most sincere congratulations. I am very pleased that the ugly plots of reaction, colonialism and the satanic agents did not work in our dear Iran and failed to make use of the shah's destructive plots to create divisiveness between the Shi'ites and the Sunnis in Kurdestan. The 28th division of Sanandaj guard, in carrying out orders issued by the leader of the Iranian revolution, His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni, is prepared for any sacrifice. It therefore declares its preparedness to defend the country's borders.

Oil Production to be Decreased

LD152307 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2243 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] World capitalism and its affiliate, the shah's regime, were bent on the idea of finishing Iran's oil resources within the next 20 years in order to make their own survival possible. We must bear in mind that by selling independently 40 million tons of crude oil by our national and revolutionary government, we will bring to Iran the same revenues which would have been made through the sale of 300 million tons of oil by the puppet regime. Thus, by reducing production to one-fifteenth, we can prolong the life of our oil resources from 20 years to 700 years. Hail to the pioneers of the revolution, the struggling workers of the oil industry.

Tehran Warns Night Guards

LD160013 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2334 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] A warning to the night guards: We were informed a few minutes ago by the medical committee of the University of Tehran that a number of counterrevolutionaries are planning to penetrate your organized ranks by any means and stop the movement reaching its final goal. Their method is this: A group of these counterrevolutionaries have distributed cigarettes among night guards. These cigarettes have caused an intense emotional state, lasting a few hours, among the night guards. The victims are in the medical committee of Tehran University.

I beg of you to avoid receiving cigarettes or any type of food, for all of you who are guarding the streets are probably near your houses. I personally beg of you to refrain from smoking any cigarettes, even if you need them very badly. Do not accept any cigarettes or food from anyone you do not know, for right now there is a group of people distributing food and cigarettes. It is up to you night guards to be alert under the present sensitive circumstances; do not be deceived by anyone. We wish you success.

Abadan Radio Quotes PRAVDA

JN152021 Abadan International Service in Arabic 1750 GMT 15 Feb 79 JN

[Text] The newspaper PRAVDA, mouthpiece of the Soviet Communist Party, said today that the reports about preparations for moves by a U.S. Marine force to transfer U.S. citizens from Iran might be used to interfere in the country's internal affairs. Quoting the official news agency TASS, the paper said that yesterday's attack on the U.S. Embassy in Tehran was a provocation aimed at finding an excuse for U.S. military intervention. In a report from Washington, the newspaper quoted the State Department as saying that preparations are underway to send Marines and helicopters to the Iranian border region. The paper said: According to U.S. officials, this step has been taken in response to a case of extreme emergency to protect U.S. citizens in Iran and to help evacuate them from Iran. PRAVDA did not mention anything about a letter from the United States to the Kremlin leaders informing them of U.S. plans to evacuate U.S. citizens from Iran. The letter was mentioned by U.S. officials last night. The PRAVDA report on the attack against the U.S. Embassy in Tehran was similar to a report broadcast last night over Moscow television, which said that the agents of the former intelligence organization SAVAK carried out the attack. The report said that SAVAK is the creation of the CIA.

Abadan Views U.S. Criticism

JN151913 Abadan International Service in Arabic 1810 GMT 15 Feb 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] A U.S. paper yesterday assailed the Islamic revolution in Iran saying that Islam is not fit to apply to a state in the 20th century. The Voice of America broadcast the U.S. paper's article yesterday evening. We will not comment on this attack on the Islamic revolution in Iran by this imperialist paper. Imperialists want Islam to be a religion of prayer, fasting and hymns. The religion which calls for their uprooting and for cutting off their hands is not fit to rule in their view. The religion which destroys the greed of the imperialists, foils their aims and throws them out in humiliation is not fit to rule a country in the opinion of the U.S. paper. In conclusion, we say that the Islamic revolution has emerged victorious and that the march will continue despite the noise made by the tyrants.

PLO Opens Office in Tehran

JN151839 Abadan International Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 15 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpts] The PLO today opened an office in Tehran. A PLO delegation and a team of Palestinian physicians have left Beirut for Tehran. In addition to taking over the Israeli Embassy premises, the delegation is scheduled to pave the way for consolidating cooperation between the Iranian Islamic republic and the PLO, and prepare for a visit to Tehran by Yasir 'Arafat, leader of the PLO.

REPORTAGE ON EVENTS, ACTIVITIES OF 16 FEB

Tabriz Commandant Arrested

LD161035 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] We have a report about the situation in Tabriz: Major General (Sabadi), the commandant of the Tabriz barracks, together with several of his senior officers, has been put under arrest. On behalf of the Imam Khomeyni's committee and under the supervision of the Ayatollah Qazi Tabataba'i, Brig Gen Hasan (Ardebili) has been appointed commandant of the Tabriz barracks.

Yesterday, some of the weapons and ammunition of the Tabriz barracks fell into the hands of the people of Tabriz. Yesterday and last night, a number of SAVAK agents and counter-revolutionaries disturbed the peace in several parts of the city of Tabriz and several of these people were captured by the fighters of the revolution. Similarly, four houses and torture chambers belonging to the SAVAK agents were uncovered by the fighters of the Tabriz revolution.

The revolution committee has imposed a curfew from 2200 to 0600. Appreciable assistance is reaching the city of Tabriz from other cities and villages in the provinces of eastern and western Azarbayjan. Among other things, the people of Urumiyeh, formerly Reza'iyeh, have dispatched 65 large and small trucks laden with foodstuffs to the committee of the Tabriz revolution. From the (Zerih) district four trucks of foodstuffs and appreciable assistance from the towns of Batmen, [name indistinct], Sufian and several other towns and villages were also dipatched for the population of Tabriz, which demonstrates the profound solidarity of the people of our country with the great revolution. Meanwhile, the city of Tabriz is being guarded by members of the air force, the army, the gendarmerie and other fighters of the revolution.

Clash in North Tehran

LD161105 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to reports from Old Shemiran Avenue in Tehran, in the vicinity of the Malek and Bagh-e Saba avenues, a clash took place between the struggling sentries and individuals. The inhabitants of this area, particularly those around the Kia building, did not leave their homes and did not approach the site of the incident. The strugglers on guard have reported that they have immediate need of tear gas. It is necessary that the other sentries deployed close to the site of the incident join their comrades-in-arms and place essential equipment at their disposal so that the antipeople elements may be crushed as speedily as possible.

Ilam Radio Attacked

LD161052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] At 0400 today, the radio and TV center in Ilam, while all its staff were on duty, became the target of shooting by the supporters of the deposed regime. The Mujahidin answered the shooting by the traitors with a hail of machinegun fire. This clash did not result in any deaths or destruction of property.

Khomeyni Communique on Private Homes

LD161028 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The following communique was today issued by the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, the Imam Khomeyni:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Honorable and struggling Iranian nation, while profoundly thanking you for your tireless efforts and work aimed at strengthening right and vanquishing falsehood, it has been observed recently that sundry individuals and persons have been attacking the homes of people and, sometimes, causing distress to families. Although a great many such individuals whose homes are attacked because of their evil past deeds, are deserving of reprimand and punishment, yet in order to prevent innocent people and families from being troubled I deem it necessary to ask you, dear sons, from this date forth, not to attack anyone's home unless prior permission has been obtained from the lawful government, and not to arrest anybody.

Of course, the criminals and oppressors whose hands have been soaked in the blood of the people and who are guilty of transgression against the rights of the nation, will not be exempt from punishment. But the punishment of criminals should not be executed by irresponsible persons without order and proper accountability. Identify the nefarious criminals and inform the government of the Islamic revolution about them, so that, by order of the government, steps may be taken to apprehend, try and punish them. I emphasize that the issue is a matter of Islamic commandment and its infringement is not permissible. May God's peace, mercy and benedictions be upon you. 16 February 1979.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni.

Four Generals Executed

LD160932 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0619 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Please pay attention! In the name of God the avenger, here is a communique:

On Thursday, 15 February 1979, the extraordinary revolutionary court held a session and tried the first group of criminals, consisting of Nasiri, former head of SAVAK; Mehdi Rahimi, military governor of Tehran; Reza Naji, military governor of Esfahan; and Khosrowdad, commander of the air corps, all of whom had been apprehended by the armed forces of the Islamic revolution. The court found them guilty of torture, killing the people, treason to the country, and spreading sedition on earth. In accordance with Islamic standards and prescriptions the court condemned them to death and ordered the confiscation of their properties. The court's sentence was immediately carried out by the armed forces of the Islamic revolution.

[Signed] The extraordinary court of the Islamic revolution.

Troops to Report 17 Feb

TA160954 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 16 Feb 79 TA

[Text] By order of His Eminence Hazrat Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni: It is necessary that all personnel of the armed forces report to their post on Saturday at the appropriate time.

A representative of the imam will read his message to the troops. Therefore, revolutionary forces that are at present stationed at the military posts should completely cooperate with members of the armed forces, gendarmerie and police.

[Signed] The committee of the Islamic revolution.

Khomeyni Calls on Clergy

LD161004 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0830 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] From the committee of the Imam Khomeyni: In his almighty name, now that, in order to reestablish order and security, it has been decided that the units of the army, police and gendarmerie and other departments, which have been closed in the past few days, should resume work, they may possibly be faced with difficulties in resuming their activities. Therefore I call on the knowledgeable ulema and the esteemed spiritual leaders--may almighty God grant them support--to participate in the ceremonies of the reopening of these centers, and to call on the esteemed citizens to cooperate in a friendly and fraternal manner with the officers of these centers in order to establish order and to prevent an outbreak of anarchy and disorder, and to supervise their actions as far as possible. May God's peace, mercy and benedictions be upon you.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni, 16 February 1979.

Islamic Law Enforcement Officials

LD161008 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0830 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] In accordance with the Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni's instruction, which must be carried out, it is essential that all armed forces personnel attend at the appointed time their barracks, training and security and staff centers and posts where they are on duty. In accordance with the decision of the leadership authority, spiritual representatives appointed by the imam should attend the ceremonies for the resumption of duty, and then the imamate message will be read. Therefore, it is exigent that the Islamic law enforcement officials, who are currently stationed in the military centers, should give the utmost assistance and cooperation to the armed forces of the army, the gendarmerie and the police.

[Signed] The committee of Islamic revolution.

International Islamic 'Uprising'

LD161232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0845 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Here is an announcement: Dear sisters and brothers, our well-being is dependent on the well-being of all the world's masses suffering from oppression. The Islamic community throughout the world is an interconnected plurality. We have broken the back of the greedy imperialists in Iran, and we have thus liberated a part of this large community. Our liberty ought to be a preliminary for the uprising of the entire Islamic community throughout the world.

Government in 'Full Control'

LD161220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Desultory firing took place at dawn today in several parts of the capital by remnants of the former regime, who attempt at various opportunities to make use of every possible method to disrupt order and revolutionary security.

These people, whose number is limited and can be counted on the fingers of the hands, drove through the streets shooting. In one or two parts of the city, when they came under the suspicion of revolution sentries, they attempted to flee from their mortal fate by shooting at the sentries. A PARS agency report indicates that apart from these few instances of armed clashes, there was no important event in the capital last night nor at dawn this morning.

The responsible officials of the Provisional Revolutionary Government and the heads of the revolution committee have emphasized to the PARS agency that the Provisional Revolutionary Government is in full control of order and security in the country and Tehran, and there is no cause for anxiety.

Tabriz Reported Quiet

LD161154 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Here is a report on the situation in Tabriz: Tabriz is quiet and the armed members of the revolution are fully in control of the city. Rumors have been circulated since 14 February by suspect and counter-Islamic revolutionary elements in Tehran, and by Iranian and foreign agencies that certain army groups have carried out massacres and occupied the city. These rumors are entirely false. The revolution forces have been deployed in the city from the night before last, and the small resistance put up by one of the barracks has been crushed. The remainder of the army members have expressed their solidarity with the Islamic revolution and its leadership.

Air Force Reiterates Support

LD161126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] At 1000 this morning a large group of officers, pilots, NCOs, cadets and troops of the Iranian Air Force, coming to the residence of the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, the Imam Khomeyni, once again declared their solidarity with the revolution of the Iranian nation and the leadership of the revolution. During the meeting the leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni, in a message, once again expressed appreciation for the air force personnel's solidarity with the Iranian nation's revolution.

Yazdi Requests Refugees' Return

LD161140 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Quoting the Lebanese paper AL-ANBA', AFP has reported that Dr Ebrahim Yazdi, the Iranian deputy prime minister, in messages addressed to certain Persian Gulf littoral states, has requested the arrest and return to Iran of the previous regime's military and civilian personalities, who may have sought refuge in these countries. According to this report AL-ANBA' wrote: Dr Yazdi's messages were sent following reports that a group of personalities supporting the shah intended to flee by helicopter to the Persian Gulf littoral states.

U.S. Citizens Evacuating

LD161323 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS agency report from Mehrabad Airport, the first group of U.S. citizens residing in Iran will leave [as heard] the soil of Iran this afternoon.

AFP, quoting informed sources, reported that 200 U.S. citizens living in Iran had left Iran this morning on a special aircraft. It is said that the other 7,000 or so U.S. citizens residing in Iran will also leave.

'Criminals' Trying To Flee Country

LD161158 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] In an urgent and important communique addressed to all border guards and all the inhabitants of the country's border, the revolution committee has announced:

Wherever you may be along the long land and sea borders of Iran, be vigilant with regard to fleeing criminals of the despotic regime and the unlawful exit by such people. Prevent with all your might the exit of the criminals of the despotic regime, and crush every resistance by relying on the might of the revolutionary people. In the meantime, all border officers and also the zealous border inhabitants should know that should they arrest the criminals and prevent their unlawful exit, the nation will appreciate this carrying out of their national and religious duty to the best of their ability. In the communique, the revolution committee has noted that the arrest of such individuals will be deemed a great service to the Islamic revolution of Iran, and that the vigilant border guards should increase their vigilance and might to the utmost in carrying out this momentous, national duty.

People Told To Work

LD161358 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0902 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Announcement from Imam Khomeyni's bureau to all the noble Muslim people of Iran: Except for those individuals who are in charge of security and are involved in the preservation of order, in accordance with their Islamic and national duty all other individuals are asked to report to their places of work as of tomorrow, Saturday.

Radio, TV Employees Recalled

LD161359 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0921 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Imam Khomeyni has declared Saturday, the 28th of Bahman, as the end of the strike by all workers, businessmen, students and other groups. Although the staff of the voice and profile of the Islamic revolution have more or less returned to their duties after the ousting of the military forces of the previous regime, nevertheless, in view of the special circumstances it is necessary for colleagues in all sections of this organization in all parts of the country to report to their places of duty as of the start of office hours tomorrow, Saturday, to resume their activities and thus assist in the Islamic revolution.

[Signed] Sadeq Qotbzadeh, supervisor of the voice of the revolution and the profile of the revolution.

Internal Flights Begin 17 Feb

LD161400 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] To celebrate the victory of the revolution of the Iranian nation, and in pursuance of the orders of the leader of the revolution, the Imam Khomeyni, and at the instruction of the prime minister pertaining to the ending of all strikes, Iran Air has announced that after its resumption of services it will begin its first internal flights tomorrow with a flight to the holy city of Mashhad.

Beginning Sunday, there will be flights to the cities of Shiraz, Esfahan, Abadan and Ahvaz. Iran Air's employees inform the dear compatriots that since there has been a total strike for a period of 52 days, the resumption of normal operations and the carrying out of full flights will take time. Thanks to the revolutionary spirit which exists in all the employees of Iran Air, efforts will be made to give full satisfaction as soon as possible to the dear compatriots.

Khomeyni Holds Meetings

LD161401 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The PARS agency has reported that this morning 150 university professors, and also the managing director of the export bank, met separately and had talks with the leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution, the Imam Khomeyni, at his residence. It is reported that these meetings dealt with the reopening of the universities and the export bank.

Pan Am Employees, Correspondents Depart

LD161426 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Regarding flights to and from Mehrabad Airport, the chief duty officer of the control tower of the civil aviation organization has reported: Today only one Pan Am Boeing 707 arrived in Tehran, from Bahrain. This unscheduled flight landed in Mehrabad Airport this morning. It is expected to undertake the carrying of U.S. citizens from Iran to Frankfurt. Today there were three test flights by Iran Air over Tehran and an Iran Air flight to Mashhad is expected to take place tomorrow. Similarly, five Iran Air flights are ready for Sunday. Another Pan Am aircraft is also expected to come to Tehran in order to evacuate U.S. citizens. According to UPI today some 160 employees of Pan Am and foreign correspondents residing in Iran left Tehran by a Boeing 707 aircraft. This was the first aircraft to leave Tehran after the closure of Mehrabad Airport.

SAVAK Arms Cache Reportedly Found

LD161427 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] At 0200 this morning fire opened from the Kia Building on the old Shemiran Avenue on sentries of the revolution, who returned the fire and besieged the building. The building was beseiged by the people until 0630 this morning, when armed members of the revolution launched an attack. By 0730 they had occupied the building after repeated firing. A PARS report indicates that three suspects were arrested in the building and handed over to the revolution. It is said that an arms cache belonging to SAVAK has been uncovered in the cellar of the building.

7,000 Afghans To Be Expelled

LD161346 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] A PARS correspondent has learned from the branch of the former Taj Club in Sepah Avenue that a staff headquarters has been set up by the revolution committee for the repatriation of Afghan citizens who are unlawfully in Iran.

So far 600 such persons have been taken to the border under full protection. About another 7,000 persons, whose board and lodging is provided gratis, will gradually be dispatched to the Afghan border today and tomorrow. A number of these who had previously worked in Iran, after the payment of their claims from various quarters, will be dispatched to the border.

Four 'Bandits' Arrested

LD161410 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] PARS has reported from Ilam that four bandits, armed with M-1 rifles, were captured by armed members of the revolution in Ilam's [word indistinct] forest this morning. According to this report, these individuals clashed with the Ilam Mujahidin and resorted to a shootout, but were finally captured and handed over to Ilam's Islamic revolution court. There were five armed bandits: One escaped and four were arrested. Five weapons and a number of bullets fell into the hands of the armed members of the revolution.

Bus Strike to End

LD161210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS agency report, representatives of the employees of the Vahed Bus Company of Tehran and district, following a visit to the propaganda bureau of the Imam Khomeyni, expressed their readiness to end the strike by the company's employees. The employees called on the crusading Tehran people to avoid bringing their personal cars onto the streets tomorrow and to keep the roads open for greater services by the company.

NVOI CALLS FOR VIGILANCE, NOTES U.S. FORCES ALERT

TA151550 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1930 GMT on 14 February carries a commentary on the need for the Iranian people to be vigilant against the plots and schemes of the Americans. The commentary observes that the Iranian people must be prepared to protect the revolution from the agents of the former regime and American imperialists who are waiting to strike at the Iranian revolution, and notes "there are still thousands of Americans in Iran, most of whom are military personnel and CIA agents." The commentator then mentions that the U.S. secretary of defense is on a mission to the Near East and the Persian Gulf states. In connection with this, he says "all the people must unite to protect the revolution. They must not lay down their arms." He continues by saying:

"Correspondents have quoted a Pentagon spokesman as saying that the 32nd Division has been put on a state of alert. All planes, helicopters and U.S. Armed Forces in Western Europe have been put on a state of alert." "Correspondents have also cited reliable American sources to the effect that the Pentagon is considering the occupation of Iranian airports on the pretext of saving the lives of Americans living in Iran."

"Several airborne units and many helicopters have been transferred to the Persian Gulf region neighboring Iran to be used in case of need against the Iranian people and the revolutionary government."

The commentary goes on to say that the remnants of the former regime and their American masters are waiting to strike at the revolution at the opportune moment, and exhorts the revolutionary people of Iran to be alert and vigilant.

NVOI CALLS FOR VIGILANCE AGAINST COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY PLOTS

TA151718 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1945 GMT on 14 February first carries a commentary warning the revolutionaries against counterrevolutionary plots by the shah's supporters. The commentary says: "Through its national and democratic revolution, the struggling Iranian nation has toppled the cursed imperial system and the corrupt Pahlavi dynasty's rotten government. This victory was achieved through the resolute and continuous struggle of all classes of people and of all national and democratic forces opposed to despotism and imperialism. It represents a great step forward along the path of achieving the aims and aspirations of our nation. It would be a mistake, however, to regard what has so far been achieved as attaining this aim.

"The great Ayatollah Khomeyni and our nation's revolutionary movement's political and religious leaders have clearly told our people to increase their vigilance against plots by the fallen regime's remnants and their imperialist and American supporters. Well informed observers are pointing out that the U.S. Government is currently preparing a coup d'etat against our nation and country." "One should therefore be vigilant and watchful. It should not be forgotten even for a moment that the despots and exploiters have only suffered losses as a result of our nation's armed uprising and they have not yet been completely eliminated. At the first opportunity they intend to deal a blow at the revolutionary government and our nation and to reimpose their domination over our country.

"In these sensitive and historic moments, it is the duty of all revolutionaries, of all national and democratic forces and of all democratic and national parties and organizations to set aside all their ideological and other differences and to jointly defend the revolution. In unity and solidarity, they must further strengthen and expand the revolution and thus foil the plot prepared by the remnants of the ousted regime and U.S. imperialism."

The radio then carries a second commentary which denounces "the oppression of the workers and toilers by the ousted regime." It says: "The workers were deprived of their most elementary political, social and human rights. The shah's bloodshedding regime, with the help of SAVAK's assassins and executioners, committed the most ruthless crimes against the workers--the true sons of the Iranian nation. Today, our workers are celebrating the Iranian nation's great victory--the overthrow of the evil imperial regime. Now, an end has been put to the murderous despots' ruthless oppression. Thousands of our innocent children became martyrs, drank the sherbet [as heard] of martyrdom, in the struggle for the destruction of the evil and treacherous regime and for expelling its American masters from our country."

The commentary concludes by stressing the importance of unity and solidarity among the workers in defense of the revolution. It also calls on the workers to establish a labor confederation to defend the revolution more effectively.

AFGHANISTAN

HAFIZULLAH AMIN SPEAKS AT RECEPTION FOR IRAQI MINISTER

BK161030 Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 15 Feb 79 BK

[Speech by Hafizullah Amin, vice premier and minister of foreign affairs of Afghanistan, at 13 February reception in honor of Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi--read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Your Excellency Sa'dun Hammadi, the distinguished foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq, dear friends, honorable guests: I am very pleased welcoming to our beloved country, Afghanistan, a distinguished minister of foreign affairs of a friendly country with whose people our people have long historical ties. Our faith in freedom and democracy and our desire for world peace as well as our firm conviction that struggle against colonialism and reaction shall endlessly continue are some of the common characteristics which have brought our people together throughout the history, providing for the strengthening of the ties of brotherhood and the promotion of culture and scientific cooperation between us.

Despite close historic ties existing between our two people, both countries are the active and faithful members of the nonalined movement. In conformity with the principles of the peacekeeping policy of nonalinement both countries continue their common and all-round struggle for world peace, complete independence of people and territories still under colonial domination and for the defense of the national liberation movement in the world. Our countries firmly continue their struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid, racism and Zionism and the struggle for the consolidation at all levels of cooperation and understanding among the countries and people of the world.

In the context to have a peaceful foreign policy, both our two countries have spared no efforts for strengthening peace in the region and in the world as well as for preserving the anticolonialism, anti-imperialism and antiapartheid character of the nonalined movement. Afghanistan believes that no conservative or fascist position should be imposed on the nonalined movement. Afghanistan believes that no conservative or fascist position should be imposed on the nonalined movement between the socialist countries and imperialism and powers of the [words indistinct]. This is because both sides do not maintain the same position with regard to the nonalined movement and its peaceful objective.

As far as the nonalined movement is concerned, if the international problems and dissensions are analyzed realistically and with (?free governments), one can safely draw a dividing line between powers entertaining imperialistic ambitions and those powers having peaceful objectives and position. As nonalined countries, we are of the view that the socialist countries led by the Soviet Union are the firm friends and natural supporters of the nonalined movement, while imperialism and its allies are (?frantically) attempting to create (?divisions) within the nonalined movement.

We earnestly hope that the next nonalined summit in Havana in September this year will be a successful gathering and also an effective role for further strengthening world peace, cohesion and unity among the nonalined nations. This will once again foil the [word indistinct] attempt being made by the enemies of world peace and of the nonalined movement aimed at weakening the movement, thus providing a revolutionary role to raise higher in the heroic struggle in favor of world peace.

Your Excellency, it is obvious that our two countries, being very much interested in peace in the region and the world, cannot remain indifferent to what is going on in the world. We are concerned about the situation in the Middle East while considering the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people as the crux of the whole problem of the Middle East. We strongly believe that partial agreement and [word indistinct] understanding cannot bring peace to the Middle East. On the same basis we consider the Egypt-Israel Camp David Accord as a matter against the interest of the Arabs and Palestinian people and as a factor for further complicating the situation in that region. We condemn any kind of imperialistic maneuver and conspiracy aimed at dividing the Arab people or creating rifts among them. For this reason we appreciate the efforts being made for the consolidation of unity among the Arab countries and people in which your excellency's friendly country plays an effective role.

We strongly believe that until all the occupying Israeli forces are not unconditionally withdrawn from all the occupied Arab territories and the policy of aggression and expansionism of the Zionist state is not terminated and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish an independent state of their own are not restored, genuine peace cannot be (?insured) in the Middle East [as heard].

In view of our keen interest in peace in the region, we are concerned about the difficulties confronting the people of the brotherly country of Iran. As we have already stated, Afghanistan strongly believes that the internal affairs of Iran belong only to the people of Iran. Therefore, no attempt should be made to interfere in the internal affairs of that neighborly country so as to enable the working people of Iran to determine their future without any foreign interference. We wish for the working people of Iran, who are our neighborly brothers, a prosperous and shining future.

We are fully confident that the brotherly people of Iran, under the guidance of the leaders of the provisional revolutionary Government of Iran, will follow a path of their (?freer) and prosperous future. In conformity with this view, and in the light of close fraternity and neighborliness, we recognized today the new provisional revolutionary Government of Iran. We express the hope that relations of friendship existing between our two countries will be further strengthened on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and noninterference in the internal affairs of each other in the interest of the working people of our two countries.

Our ties of friendship and brotherhood with our great northern neighbor, the Soviet Union, which are based on equal rights, respect for the independence and territorial integrity of each other and noninterference in the internal affairs of each other, have developed and are being strengthened in a very satisfactory manner in conformity with the wishes and interest of our two people. Likewise, mutual cooperation between our countries is expanding day by day.

Similarly, our relations of friendship and brotherhood and cooperation with other socialist countries are expanding positively.

We maintain relations of close friendship and mutual cooperation with India. Cooperations between our two countries are very well and in the interest of peace in the region and in the world.

We maintain normal friendly relations with China. We are desirous of having close friendly relations with Pakistan. The only political difference--on the national issue of Pakhtoon and Baluchi people--existing between our two countries, we hope would be settled through friendly negotiations and understanding between the two countries.

(?Partially) The enemies of brotherhood between the working people of Afghanistan and Pakistan [words indistinct].

As your excellencies are aware, there have been certain interesting developments in our region recently. The victory of the courageous people of Kampuchea for genuine independence and national sovereignty was welcomed by our people. We are fully confident that the Kampuchean people, having removed the puppet government, will now take the positive and effective path in constructing their future and for the success of peace in the region and in the world as well as for the success of progressive forces. We condemn any threat against the friendly people of Kampuchea and the people of Vietnam or foreign interference in their internal affairs.

We maintain the view that all aggressive and military bases in the Indian Ocean should be terminated to allow the Indian Ocean to become a zone of peace.

We consider the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as representing the whole Korean people. It was for this reason that we withdrew recognition extended to the [words indistinct] the Republic of South Korea during the corrupt Daud regime. Consequently, we severed our diplomatic relations with that government. We support the peaceful reunification of Korea in conformity with the wishes of the Korean people without any foreign interference. We are of the opinion that for the realization of this objective, all forces stationed in the southern part of the Korean Peninsula should be withdrawn.

Your Excellency, the peaceloving people of Afghanistan and their popular government firmly support the struggle of the liberation movements all over the world. It sincerely supports general and complete disarmament, the broadening of the process of detente and peaceful coexistence among all people and governments.

We condemn the conspiracies and plots of imperialism and international reaction against the African people, particularly aggression against the courageous people of Angola, Ethiopia and Mozambique and, in this connection we support the resolutions adopted with regard to the situation in South Africa in the recently held extraordinary meeting of the coordinating bureau of the nonalined countries in Maputo. We consider measures aimed at creating obstacles in the way of the genuine independence of Zimbabwe and Namibia as attempts against peace.

The continuation of the present unjust economic relations in the world and their colonial and exploitive nature, in our view, constitute one of the main factors in widening the gap between the developed and developing countries and making the developmental problems of the latter more acute. For this reason we support the early establishment of a new international economic order based on justice and equality so as to compensate to some extent for the years of colonial exploitation of the working people of the developing countries by the imperialist countries.

In conclusion may I ask the distinguished guests and honorable friends to join me and toast to my wishes for the further strengthening of the ties of friendship and brotherhood between the working people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and of the Republic of Iraq; for the health of the distinguished minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Iraq, His Excellency Sa'dun Hammadi; for the health and long life of the president of Iraq, His Excellency Hasan al-Bakr; for the health and long life of the great, the beloved leader of the people of Afghanistan, Nur Mohammad Taraki, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan; for the success of world peace, democracy and the social program. Thank you.

INDIA

ARMED FORCES TO HAVE MORE 'SOPHISTICATED MISSILES'

BK160052 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The government will shortly launch an integrated program for equipping the armed forces with more sophisticated missiles. Besides procurement of these sophisticated missiles in the initial stages, the government has plans for their development and production indigenously.

This was the recommendation of a missile policy committee set up by the Ministry of Defense. The committee is headed by the scientific adviser to the defense minister, (Dr Raja Ramanna). He told the meeting of the consultative committee of members of parliament of the Defense Ministry in New Delhi today that a [word indistinct] has already been built up in rocket and missile technology.

MRS GANDHI DENIES FILING FALSE VOTER AFFIDAVIT

BK151139 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Mrs Gandhi has denied the charge that she had filed a false affidavit to enroll herself as a voter in the Dodaballapur assembly constituency in Karnataka. She made the statement before First Class Judicial Magistrate Mr (A. Mohanram) today. She was summoned by the magistrate following a complaint filed by a Janata leader, Mr (A.N. Nilakntaiya), that she had filed a false declaration saying that she was ordinarily a resident of Dodaballapur taluk [administrative subdivision of a district].

SCATTERED ACTS OF VIOLENCE CONTINUE IN JAMMU

BK151641 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Stray acts of violence and stone throwing continued in Jammu today. The agitators pelted stones on police pickets from government offices and attempts were made to ransack some of these offices. The police foiled a number of such attempts. The police had to fire a few shots in the air to disperse the mob throwing stones at the state finance minister's residence.

The markets and shopping centers of the city remained closed today in response to a call given by some student organizations. However, a number of shops in various streets opened in the evening. The demonstrators took out processions carrying black flags in different parts of the city.

Dr Charan Singh, MP, has appealed to the people to maintain peace and not to resort to violence, even when provoked. Dr Singh told newsmen in Jammu today that the state government has failed to respond to the situation in a democratic manner. He said the only demand of the people is for the setting up of a commission headed by a Supreme Court judge to work out territorial and constitutional safeguards for the three regions of the state.

DELHI REPORTS RESIGNATION OF UTTAR PRADESH CHIEF MINISTER

BK160325 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The Uttar Predesh chief minister, Mr Ram Naresh Yadav, has resigned following his failure to secure a vote of confidence in the legislature party. His resignation is reported to have been sent to the governor late last night.

The AIR [All-India Radio] Lucknow correspondent understands that Mr Yadav's resignation was on the advice of the deputy prime minister, Mr Charan Singh. Earlier in a statement Mr Yadav had claimed that his defeat did not reflect the factual position of his support in the party. He said neither he nor his Cabinet colleagues will join any government in which communal elements take part.

The general secretary of the State Janata Party, Mr Kaushal Kishore, has thanked Mr Yadav for accepting the verdict of the party. He said although the party has been divided over the leadership issue, he is hopeful that it will be able to maintain unity. In New Delhi, the Janata Party president, Mr Chandra Shekhar, has welcomed Mr Yadav's resignation. He was commenting on the report of Mr Yadav's resignation last night. He said earlier that a new leader of the Janata legislature party will be elected soon and efforts will be made to see that the election will not be on the basis of group alliances.

PAKISTAN

HAQ HAS 'NO INTEREST' IN CONTESTING ELECTION

BK151724 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Feb 79 BK

[Excerpt] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that there has been no change so far in the election program scheduled for the current year. He was talking to newsmen at Lahore Airport before his departure for Rawalpindi after a short visit to the city.

He said the election would have [words indistinct] importance but other factors are also of similar importance. He emphasized that he and his colleagues would do whatever was absolutely in the interest of the country. He pointed out that he himself had no political party nor did he want to form one. He has no intention of contesting the election to become the president or the prime minister. He had therefore no personal interest in these matters. Whatever steps he would take would be purely to insure the solidarity of the country.

SRI LANKA

AFP: SRI LANKA RECOGNIZES NEW IRANIAN GOVERNMENT

BK151651 Hong Kong AFP in English 0847 GMT 15 Feb 79 BK

[Excerpt] Colombo, 15 Feb (AFP)--Sri Lanka's President J.P. Jayewardene yesterday sent a message of congratulations to Dr Bazargan which amounted to recognition of the new government.